

Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power Consultation Report

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Executive Summary

This Consultation Report (the 'Report') relates to the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project (the 'Proposed Development').

Uniper UK Limited (the 'Applicant') has submitted an application to the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order ('DCO') from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for the Proposed Development (the 'Application'). The Proposed Development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP') as defined in the Planning Act 2008 ('the 2008 Act'). (Ref 1)

In accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant has submitted this Report as part of the Application. This Report explains how the Applicant has complied with the consultation requirements set out in the 2008 Act, summarises the responses received to the consultation and explains the regard had to those responses by the Applicant in finalising the Application. This Report also provides information about the Non-Statutory Consultation and engagement undertaken by the Applicant about the Proposed Development ('Non-Statutory Consultation').

The Applicant carried out comprehensive pre-application consultation on its proposals prior to submitting the Application, including a four-week Non-Statutory Consultation, a six-week Statutory Consultation and a four-week non-statutory Targeted Consultation ('Targeted Consultation'). The Statutory Consultation accorded with the requirements of the 2008 Act, the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 ('APFP Regulations') (Ref 2) and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations') (Ref 3) and had regard to guidance issued under section 50(3) of the 2008 Act. In addition, the Applicant undertook non-statutory engagement throughout the pre-application stage.

The Applicant consulted in a variety of ways to maximise consultee participation. A large number of consultees provided feedback, and the Applicant is grateful to all those who took the time to engage in the consultation process.

Section 1 of this Report explains the purpose and structure of this Report, describes the Proposed Development and summarises the key pre-application consultation milestones.

Section 2 describes the Non-Statutory Consultation carried out from 26 February 2024 to 25 March 2024, summarises the responses received to that Non-Statutory Consultation and explains how the Applicant had regard to those responses.

Section 3 provides information about the consultation that was undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate pursuant to the EIA Regulations in relation to the environmental impact assessment ('EIA') for the Proposed Development. It notes that the Applicant sought a scoping opinion from the Planning Inspectorate.

Section 4 provides an overview of the Statutory Consultation, sets out the legal requirements for the Statutory Consultation and details the preparation and publication of the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC'), including how the Applicant consulted on a draft SoCC, details of local authority responses to the draft SoCC and how the Applicant had regard to the local authority responses. This Report demonstrates how the Applicant has undertaken the consultation

process in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance, as well as relevant advice from the Planning Inspectorate.

Section 5 sets out details of the Statutory Consultation undertaken by the Applicant between 8 October 2024 and 19 November 2024 with statutory consultees pursuant to section 42 of the 2008 Act and the local community pursuant to section 47 of the 2008 Act, as well as the publicity that was undertaken pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act ('Statutory Consultation'). This section explains the steps taken by the Applicant to comply with the notification requirements under section 46 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations. It summarises the responses received to the Statutory Consultation and explains how the Applicant has had regard to those responses.

Section 6 describes the non-statutory Targeted Consultation carried out from 8 May 2025 to 6 June 2025, summarises the responses received to that Targeted Consultation and explains how the Applicant had regard to those responses.

Section 7 explains the non-statutory engagement undertaken by the Applicant throughout the pre-application stage.

Section 8 draws conclusions on the pre-application consultation carried out by the Applicant and confirms that the Applicant has complied with requirements and guidance for consultation.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Consultation Report (the 'Report') relates to the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project (the 'Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2 Uniper UK Limited (the 'Applicant') has submitted an application to the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order ('DCO') from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for the Proposed Development (the 'Application'). The Proposed Development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP') as defined in the Planning Act 2008 (the '2008 Act').
- 1.1.3 In accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant has submitted this Report as part of the Application. This Report explains how the Applicant has complied with the consultation requirements set out in the 2008 Act, summarises the responses received to the consultation and explains the account taken by the Applicant of those responses in finalising the Application. It also provides information about the Non-Statutory Consultation and engagement undertaken by the Applicant about the Proposed Development.

1.2 Consultation Report structure

- 1.2.1 This Report is structured as follows:
 - **Section 1 – Introduction:** Explains the purpose and structure of this Report, describes the Proposed Development and summarises the key pre-application consultation milestones.
 - **Section 2 – Non-Statutory Consultation:** Describes the Non-Statutory Consultation undertaken from 26 February 2024 to 25 March 2024 ('Non-Statutory Consultation'), summarises the responses received to that Non-Statutory Consultation and explains how the Applicant had regard to those responses.
 - **Section 3 – Consultation under EIA Regulations:** Provides information about the consultation that was undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate pursuant to the EIA Regulations in relation to the environmental impact assessment ('EIA') for the Proposed Development. It notes that the Applicant sought a scoping opinion from the Planning Inspectorate.
 - **Section 4 – Approach to Statutory Consultation:** Provides an overview of the Statutory Consultation, sets out the legal requirements for the Statutory Consultation and details the preparation and publication of the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC'), including how the Applicant consulted on a draft SoCC, details of local authority responses to the draft SoCC and how the Applicant had regard to the local authority responses. This Report demonstrates how the Applicant has undertaken the consultation process in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance, as well as relevant advice from the Planning Inspectorate.
 - **Section 5 – Statutory Consultation:** Sets out the Statutory Consultation undertaken by the Applicant between 8 October 2024 and 19 November 2024 with statutory consultees pursuant to section 42 of

the 2008 Act and the local community pursuant to section 47 of the 2008 Act, as well as the publicity that was undertaken pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act ('Statutory Consultation'). This section explains the steps taken by the Applicant to comply with the notification requirements under section 46 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations. It summarises the responses received to the Statutory Consultation and explains how the Applicant has had regard to those responses.

- **Section 6 – Targeted Consultation:** Describes the non-statutory Targeted Consultation carried out from 8 May 2025 to 6 June 2025 ('Targeted Consultation'), summarises the responses received to that Targeted Consultation and explains how the Applicant had regard to those responses.
- **Section 7 – Non-Statutory Engagement:** Explains the non-statutory engagement undertaken by the Applicant throughout the pre-application stage.
- **Section 8 – Conclusion:** Draws conclusions on the pre-application consultation carried out by the Applicant and confirms that the Applicant has complied with requirements and guidance for consultation.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The Applicant is seeking a Development Consent Order ('DCO') for the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a proposed low carbon Combined Cycle Gas Turbine ('CCGT') Generating Station fitted with Carbon Capture Plant ('CCP') (the 'Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power ('CQLCP') Abated Generating Station') and supporting infrastructure (collectively 'the Proposed Development').
- 1.3.2 The CQLCP Abated Generating Station would comprise up to two CCGTs with CCP units (and supporting infrastructure) achieving a net electrical output capacity of more than 350 megawatts ('MW'; referred to as 'MWe' for electrical output) and up to a likely maximum of 1,380 MWe (with CCP operational) onto the national electricity transmission network.
- 1.3.3 Through a carbon dioxide ('CO₂') pipeline, comprising existing and new elements, the Proposed Development would make use of CO₂ transport and storage networks owned and operated by Liverpool Bay CCS Limited, currently under development as part of the HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline project (referred to as the 'HyNet CO₂ Pipeline Project'), that will transport CO₂ captured from existing and new industries in North Wales and North-West England for offshore storage. The captured CO₂ will be permanently stored in depleted offshore gas reservoirs in Liverpool Bay.
- 1.3.4 For the purposes of the electrical connection, National Grid Electricity Transmission plc ('NGET'), which builds and maintains the electricity transmission network, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the existing 400 kV NGET substation.
- 1.3.5 A description of the Proposed Development is set out in **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development** of the Environmental Statement ('ES') (**EN010166/APP/6.2.4**). At this stage in the development, the design of the Proposed Development incorporates a necessary degree of flexibility to allow for ongoing design development.

1.4 Summary of consultation milestones

1.4.1 **Table 1** below provides a summary of the key pre-application consultation milestones.

Table 1: Key pre-application consultation milestones

Key pre-application milestone	Timing
Non-Statutory Consultation	26 February to 25 March 2024
Statutory Consultation	8 October to 19 November 2024
Targeted Consultation	8 May 2025 to 6 June 2025

2. Non-Statutory Consultation

2.1 Overview

2.1.1 The Applicant recognises the importance of early consultation. The Applicant therefore carried out Non-Statutory Consultation on the Proposed Development with the local community and key stakeholders between 26 February and 25 March 2024 (known as the 'Non-Statutory Consultation').

2.1.2 An 'Approach to Consultation' Document (see **Appendix A-3: Approach to Consultation Document**) was provided to officers at Flintshire County Council ('FCC') (the host authority) prior to Non-Statutory Consultation. This document provided a brief description of the objectives of the programme and the phases of activity, along with more detailed information about the initial non-statutory phase of consultation. Feedback received from the local authority informed the approach taken to early engagement. This document was not a formal Statement of Community Consultation but was produced to inform stakeholders about the approach to the Non-Statutory Consultation and its role in the overall planning process.

2.1.3 The materials for the Non-Statutory Consultation were available for inspection from 26 February 2024 to 25 March 2024 at Flint Library, Church St, Flint CH6 5AP and Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA (the 'Information Points').

2.1.4 The materials were also made available on the Proposed Development consultation website (<https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/>) during the consultation period for the Non-Statutory Consultation.

2.1.5 This Non-Statutory Consultation was publicised through the following means:

- In a press release (see **Appendix A-1: Press Release**), which was issued on 15 February 2024.
- On the Proposed Development consultation website at: <https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/project-consultation-documents-3/>
- In a newsletter (the 'Non-Statutory Consultation Newsletter') (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which was sent on 22 February 2024 to 20,821 addresses within a 5km radius of the Site comprising the Primary Consultation Zone ('PCZ') (see Section 5.6 of this Report for further details).
- In a brochure (the 'Non-Statutory Consultation Brochure') (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which was made available on the Proposed Development consultation website, as well as in hard copy at information points.
- On consultation banners (the 'Non-Statutory Consultation Banners') (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which were made available to view at the in-person public consultation events, as well as on the consultation website.
- In digital adverts (the 'Non-Statutory Consultation digital advert') (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which were published through the 'North Wales Chronicle' as well as on

‘Deeside.com’. These adverts were published a week before the launch of Non-Statutory Consultation and ran for the duration of the consultation.

- In print adverts (the ‘Non-Statutory Consultation print advert’) (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which were published in local print media publications The Leader and the Wirral Globe. These ran for one week prior to the start of the consultation.
- On consultation posters (the ‘Non-Statutory Consultation Poster’) (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**), which were similar in format to the adverts and communicated what the consultation was about, when it was running and how to take part. The Applicant also provided local town and community councils with copies of the poster to display on local notice boards.

2.1.6 Three community drop-in events were held on the following dates and times, during which the proposals were introduced:

- Connah's Quay Cricket Club CH5 4DZ – Saturday 2 March 2024, 1pm to 5pm
- Flint Town Hall CH6 5NW – Monday 4 March 2024, 4pm to 8pm
- Conference Centre, Coleg Cambria Deeside CH5 4BR – Wednesday 6 March 2024, 1pm to 5pm.

2.1.7 Two online webinars were also held on the following dates and times, which provided the same information as the community drop-in events above without attendees being required to attend events in person:

- Wednesday 28 February 2024, 6pm to 7pm; and
- Tuesday 5 March 2024, 1pm to 2pm.

2.1.8 These events were publicised through the newsletter, brochure, banners and adverts – published both digitally and virtually – referenced in Section 2.1.4, as well as in the press release and in the Approach to Consultation Document (see **Appendix A-3: Approach to Consultation Document**). The exhibition boards for the events (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**) were made available on the Proposed Development consultation website from Friday 1 March 2024. A total of 81 people attended the community drop-in and webinar events.

2.1.9 As part of this Non-Statutory Consultation, the Applicant also identified 220 homes and businesses in close proximity to the Site (within the PCZ) and undertook door knocking in order to discuss and inform those within the consultation zone in person about the Proposed Development and invite these residents to an in-person briefing to discuss the Proposed Development and answer questions. The briefings were held at the Education Centre located at the existing Connah's Quay Power Station, Kelsterton Road, Deeside CH5 4BP on 26 and 27 February 2024 from 10am to 5pm, and 10 people attended these briefings. The Applicant also left a door-knocking card (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**) at properties where they were unable to speak with the resident, informing them of the Proposed Development and these briefings.

2.2 Responses to Non-Statutory Consultation

2.2.1 A hard copy feedback form (see **Appendix A-2: Non-Statutory Consultation Materials**) was available on the consultation website, at the community drop-in events, at the Information Points and via post upon request from the Applicant.

2.2.2 Responses to the Non-Statutory Consultation could be provided in the methods set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Methods of responding to the Non-Statutory Consultation

Method of providing response	Number of consultation responses received
Online feedback form	45
Hard copy feedback form	3
Email	6
Post	0
Telephone	0
TOTAL RESPONSES	54

2.2.3 A summary of the topics raised in the responses received to the Non-Statutory Consultation and the regard had to those by the Applicant is provided in **Appendix A-5: Regard Had to Statutory Bodies Responses** and **Appendix A-6: Regard Had to Local Community/General Public Responses**.

3. Consultation under EIA Regulations

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The Planning Inspectorate's Advice 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report' states:

'The applicant may wish to draw attention to consultation responses received under the EIA process, but any reference to the EIA consultation should be addressed separately from the non-statutory and statutory consultation carried out under the Planning Act.' (Ref 4)

3.2 Scoping

3.2.1 The EIA requirement for NSIPs is transposed into law through the EIA Regulations. The EIA Regulations specify which developments are required to undergo EIA and schemes relevant to the NSIP planning process are listed under either 'Schedule 1' or 'Schedule 2'. Those developments listed in Schedule 1 must be subject to EIA, while developments listed in 'Schedule 2' must only be subject to EIA if they are considered 'likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location' (Regulation 3(1) of the EIA Regulations). The selection criteria for Schedule 2 development are set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations.

3.2.2 Schedule 1 to the EIA Regulations, which describes developments for which an EIA is necessary, includes *"thermal power stations, and other combustion installations, with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more."* Given its capacity and the nature of the proposed activities, the Proposed Development will therefore be an 'EIA development' under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations.

3.2.3 On 8 February 2024, the Applicant submitted a Scoping Report (see ES Volume (6), **Appendix (1-A): Scoping Report (EN010166/APP/6.4)** in support of a request for a Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State pursuant to Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations.

3.2.4 A Scoping Opinion (see ES Volume (6), **Appendix (1-B): Scoping Opinion (EN010166/APP/6.4)**) was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate on 20 March 2024. Before adopting the Scoping Opinion, the Planning Inspectorate consulted the 'consultation bodies' listed in Appendix 1 of the Scoping Opinion in accordance with Regulation 10(6) of the EIA Regulations. A list of those consultation bodies who replied within the statutory timeframe (along with copies of their comments) is provided in Appendix 2 of the Scoping Opinion. As confirmed at paragraph 1.1.5 of the Scoping Opinion, those comments were taken into account in the preparation of the Scoping Opinion.

3.3 Environmental Statement

3.3.1 An Environmental Statement for the Proposed Development has been submitted with the Application.

3.3.2 ES Volume (6) , **Appendix (1-C): EIA Statement of Competence (EN010166/APP/6.4)** confirms how the Environmental Statement complies with the Scoping Opinion.

4. Approach to Statutory Consultation

4.1 Overview

- 4.1.1 Following detailed consideration of the feedback received to the Non-Statutory Consultation, together with the results of further technical surveys and analysis, the Applicant undertook Statutory Consultation and publicity between 8 October and 19 November 2024 on the proposals for the Proposed Development in accordance with sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act (known as the 'Statutory Consultation').
- 4.1.2 The consultation period for the Statutory Consultation exceeded the minimum period of 28 days required by the 2008 Act.

4.2 Legal requirements for Statutory Consultation

- 4.2.1 The Statutory Consultation for the Proposed Development was designed to comply with the statutory requirements in:
 - the 2008 Act;
 - the APFP Regulations; and
 - the EIA Regulations.
- 4.2.2 The Applicant's approach to consultation has been structured to accord with the applicable legal framework and to provide a high quality and meaningful process of consultation with the local community, statutory consultees and the general public.
- 4.2.3 **Appendix F: Compliance** sets out the statutory requirements (Table 1) and the requirements from the relevant guidance on pre-application consultation (Table 2) explains how the Applicant complied with each requirement and identifies where further information can be found within this Report.

4.3 Statement of Community Consultation

- 4.3.1 As required by section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant prepared a statement setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the land about the proposed application, this being the Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC') (see **Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation**).
- 4.3.2 As explained below, in accordance with section 47(2) of the 2008 Act, before preparing the SoCC, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the 2008 Act (i.e. the relevant host authorities) about what was to be in the statement, these being FCC and Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC).¹
- 4.3.3 An initial draft of the SoCC was issued to FCC and CWCC in May 2024 for informal feedback.
- 4.3.4 A revised draft of the SoCC was sent to FCC and CWCC for formal consultation under section 47(2) of the 2008 Act on Thursday 13 June 2024

¹ Please see Section 5.5 below regarding the status of CWCC as a host authority, which confirms that whilst CWCC was a host authority for the purposes of the Statutory Consultation, it is not a host authority for the purposes of the Application.

(see **Appendix B-1: Local Authority Emails and Letters on Statement of Community Consultation**). The draft SoCC was also sent to Denbighshire County Council, Wrexham County Borough Council, Wirral Council and Liverpool City Council for their reference.

4.3.5 A table listing the feedback received and how the Applicant had regard to that feedback in preparing the final version of the SoCC is provided at **Appendix B-2: Regard had to Host Authorities' Responses to Statement of Community Consultation**. As can be seen in that appendix, comments on the draft SoCC were only received from CWCC.

4.3.6 The SoCC described the Proposed Development and the Site, explained the 2008 Act process and provided details of how the local community consultation would be carried out.

4.3.7 Once finalised, the SoCC was made available on the Proposed Development consultation website and at the following locations ('Public Information Points') from Tuesday 8 October 2024 until 19 November 2024:

- Flint Library, Church St, Flint CH6 5AP;
- Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA;
- Buckley Library, The Precinct, Brunswick Rd, Buckley CH7 2EF;
- Ellesmere Port Library, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port CH65 0BG; and
- Holywell Library, Holywell Leisure Centre, North Road, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 7UZ.

4.3.8 A notice (see **Appendix B-4: Section 47 Notices for Statement of Community Consultation**) stating where and when the SoCC could be inspected was published in the local newspapers listed in **Table 3** below in accordance with section 47(6)(a) of the 2008 Act.

Table 3: Details of newspaper notice about the publication of the SoCC

Newspaper	Date of advertisement
The Chester Standard	26 September 2024
The Leader	26 September 2024
Wirral Globe	25 September 2024

4.3.9 A table listing the material requirements of the SoCC, and how the Applicant carried out the Statutory Consultation in accordance with each requirement, is provided in Table (3) of **Appendix F: Compliance**.

4.4 Adequacy of Consultation Milestone

4.4.1 In accordance with the 'Adequacy of Consultation Milestone', which was introduced by the Planning Inspectorate's Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus, the Applicant made a written submission to the Planning Inspectorate on 29 January 2025 which established the consultation that had been undertaken at that date, confirmed the approach set out within the SoCC and summarised the consultation responses and the way in which they had shaped the Application, as well as the views and supporting material from the local authorities. (Ref 5)

5. Statutory Consultation

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 Information on the Proposed Development and preliminary environmental information was published for the Statutory Consultation in the following documents (see **Appendix C: Statutory Consultation**):

- **Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR')** – This set out the information compiled by the Applicant to enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development and comprised four volumes: Volume 1 (Non- Technical Summary); Volume 2 (Main Text); Volume 3 (Figures); and Volume 4 (Technical Appendices).
- **Statutory Consultation Newsletter** – This provided information about the Proposed Development, the consultation events, feedback received at the Non-Statutory Consultation, details of the Statutory Consultation and next steps. The newsletter was sent on 1 October 2024 to approximately 25,401 homes and businesses within the PCZ ahead of the Statutory Consultation and was issued by email on 3 October 2024 to wider consultees, including community groups and hard-to-reach groups.
- **Statutory Consultation Brochure** – This provided information about the Proposed Development, the EIA process and the consultation events, and details of the Statutory Consultation and next steps. Hard copies of the consultation brochure were available at the information points and at consultation events, and could be requested in hard copy free of charge via the Project contact centre channels.
- **Statutory Consultation Advertisement** – The Applicant published an advertisement in the local media prior to commencement of the Statutory Consultation. The advertisement was designed in a clear, accessible format, clearly communicating what the consultation was about, when it was running and how to take part. The Applicant also contacted local town and community councils and invited them to share the advertisement through their own social channels. The advertisement was published as follows:
 - Wirral Globe – 2 October 2024
 - The Leader – 2 October 2024
 - The Chester Standard – 3 October 2024
 - North Wales Chronicle – 3 October 2024.

5.1.2 Statutory Consultation Posters – The Applicant prepared posters, which were printed and distributed throughout the local area in high footfall locations (see **Appendix C-13: Poster Locations**). The posters were similar in format to the advertisement and communicated what the Statutory Consultation related to and how to respond. The Applicant also provided local town and community councils with copies of the poster to display on local notice boards. The poster was displayed in the following locations on Tuesday 1 October 2024:

- Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA

- Connah's Quay Morrisons, Ffordd Llanarth CH5 4WL
- Connah's Quay Swimming Pool, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA
- Deeside Library, Chester Road West, Queensferry CH5 1SA
- Deeside Leisure Centre, Chester Road West, Queensferry CH5 1SA
- Flint Sainsbury's, Flintshire Retail Park, Holywell Road, Flint CH6 5GB
- Flint Town Hall, Market Square, Flint CH6 5NW
- Flint Library, Church Street, Flint CH6 5AP.

5.1.3 Statutory Consultation Press Release – A local media press release provided wider notification to local stakeholders of the consultation events, reaching stakeholders outside the PCZ. The press release was circulated to the following local media outlets and trade titles on 8 October 2024:

- Carbon Capture Journal
- Argus Media
- Montel News
- BBC One North West 2
- BBC One North West 1
- The Flintshire Leader
- The Chester and District Standard
- ITV News Granada 2
- The Chester Chronical
- Wales on Sunday
- Daily Post Wales
- BBC Radio Merseyside 2
- BBC Radio Merseyside 1
- ITV News Granada 1
- Energy Live News
- International Power Engineer
- Modern Power Systems
- Natural Gas World
- Energy Industry Times
- Carbon Pulse
- Carbon Brief
- New Power Magazine
- Business Green
- Power Engineering International
- S&P Global.

5.1.4 Together, the above Statutory Consultation documents described the Proposed Development and the Site, explained the consultation process and set out how consultees could respond to the consultation.

5.1.5 Electronic copies of the Statutory Consultation documents were available to download free of charge during the consultation period on the Proposed Development consultation website: <https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/project-consultation-documents-3/> under the tab labelled 'Document library'.

5.1.6 Hard copies of the Statutory Consultation Newsletter, Statutory Consultation Brochure, feedback form and USB sticks containing all consultation materials including the PEIR were available to take home from a number of the Public Information Points within the PCZ. These were:

- Flint Library, Church St, Flint CH6 5AP
- Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA
- Buckley Library, The Precinct, Brunswick Road, Buckley CH7 2EF
- Ellesmere Port Library, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port CH65 0BG
- Holywell Library, Holywell Leisure Centre, North Road, Holywell CH8 7UZ.

5.1.7 Copies of the SoCC and the Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR were also available at all Public Information Points, and a full hard copy of the PEIR was available for reference at the two information points located closest to the Proposed Development. These were:

- Flint Library, Church Street, Flint CH6 5AP
- Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA.

5.1.8 The Public Information Points are listed in **Section 4.3** of this Report. A check of the Public Information Points to ensure there were sufficient copies of materials was undertaken on Tuesday 15 October 2024; Figures 3-1 to 3-8 of the PEIR and one hard copy of the SoCC needed to be replenished at Connah's Quay Library along with copies of the Consultation Brochure at this location and Flint Library. A further check was conducted on Thursday 7 November 2024, when missing PEIR figure chapters – as outlined below in Section 5.1.12 - were added but no materials needed to be replenished.

5.1.9 A copy of the consultation documents was available for inspection at the in-person events listed in **Section 5.6** of this Report.

5.1.10 The Applicant offered to provide a full set of consultation documents on a USB memory stick upon request free of charge and hard copies could be obtained upon request (with the exception of a hard copy of the PEIR, which was charged at a maximum of £250). The Applicant issued two USBs and no hard copies.

5.1.11 A Welsh translated version of the consultation website was produced containing Welsh versions of the Statutory Consultation Newsletter, Statutory Consultation Brochure, Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR and feedback form for download. All consultation materials, with the exception of the PEIR and SoCC, were available in Welsh on the Proposed Development consultation website, at information points, at in-person consultation events and in hard copy upon request via the Proposed Development contact centre.

5.1.12 A Welsh speaker was present at each in-person consultation event to provide translations of the exhibition boards and to explain the Proposed Development in Welsh if needed.

5.1.13 Documents were also made available in alternative formats, such as braille, speaking text or an alternative language, upon request. No requests were made.

5.1.14 In November 2024, the Applicant identified that Figures 15-10 to 15-29 of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) - which included wireframe viewpoints and winter viewpoint photography - had been mistakenly omitted from the version submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 1 October 2024.

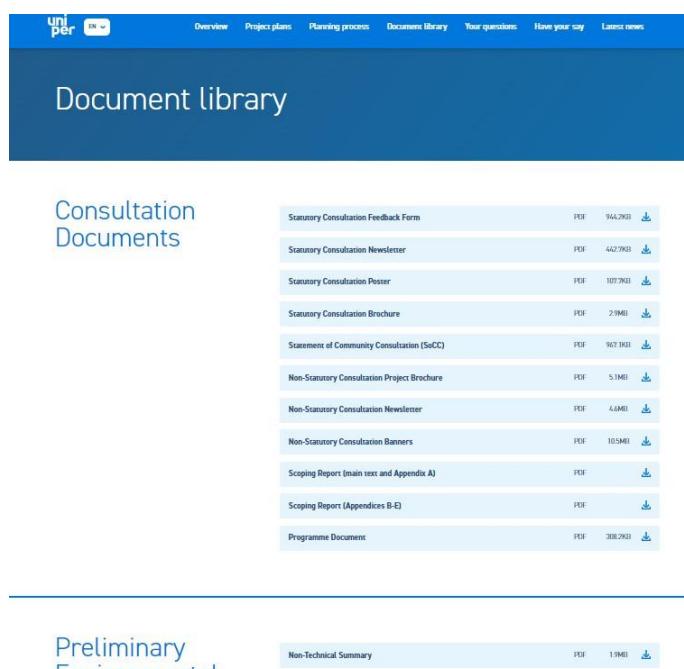
5.1.15 Upon identifying the omission, the Applicant took immediate steps to rectify the issue. The missing figures were uploaded to the consultation website and made available at the consultation document deposit locations. In addition, the Applicant issued a letter to the Planning Inspectorate on 6 November 2024 to formally notify them of the correction (see **Appendix D-6: PEIR Figures Omission – Notification to PINS**).

5.1.16 The Applicant believes this omission did not materially impact the effectiveness of the consultation, as the relevant viewpoint locations and assessment methodology were still set out within the PEIR text and other accompanying figures. However, the Applicant took all appropriate steps to ensure that the full set of materials was made available promptly and transparently.

5.2 Consultation website

5.2.1 On the launch of the Statutory Consultation, the Proposed Development consultation website (<https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/>) was updated. This update provided details of consultation events and information on how to provide feedback on the Proposed Development proposals. Amongst other things, the consultation website included copies of the consultation materials (see **Figure 1**), the SoCC, the online feedback form and contact details for the Applicant.

5.2.2 The Proposed Development consultation website was kept up to date for the duration of the Statutory Consultation.



The screenshot shows a website interface for 'uni per'. The top navigation bar includes 'Overview', 'Project plans', 'Planning process', 'Document library', 'Your opinions', 'Have your say', and 'Launch news'. A language switcher shows 'EN' and 'FR'. The main content area has a blue header 'Document library'. Below it, a section titled 'Consultation Documents' lists various files:

File	Type	Size	Action
Statutory Consultation Feedback Form	PDF	944.2KB	
Statutory Consultation Newsletter	PDF	442.7KB	
Statutory Consultation Poster	PDF	102.7KB	
Statutory Consultation Brochure	PDF	2.9MB	
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	PDF	967.1KB	
Non-Statutory Consultation Project Brochure	PDF	5.1MB	
Non-Statutory Consultation Newsletter	PDF	4.4MB	
Non-Statutory Consultation Banners	PDF	10.5MB	
Scoping Report (main text and Appendix A)	PDF		
Scoping Report (Appendices B-E)	PDF		
Programme Document	PDF	308.2KB	

At the bottom, there is a footer with 'Preliminary Environmental' and a link to 'Non-Technical Summary' (PDF, 1.9MB,).

Figure 1: Screenshot of the Proposed Development website with consultation materials (Statutory Consultation)

5.3 Direct communication lines

5.3.1 Consultees were able to contact the Applicant's community relations team during the consultation period by:

- Email at info@connahsquaylcp.co.uk
- Telephone at 0800 0129156
- Post at FREEPOST CQLCP.

5.3.2 Consultees could also visit the Proposed Development consultation website at <https://www.uniper.energy/connahs-quay-low-carbon-power>.

5.4 Methods by which consultees could respond

5.4.1 All consultees were able to respond to the Statutory Consultation in the following ways:

- Completing an online feedback form (see **Appendix C-4: Statutory Consultation Feedback Form**) on the Proposed Development consultation website at <https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/have-your-say-2/>
- Completing a hard copy feedback form (see **Appendix C-4: Statutory Consultation Feedback Form**) (available at the consultation events, Public Information Points and by post upon request from the Applicant) and either handing it to the Proposed Development team at the consultation events or submitting it by post to FREEPOST CQLCP
- Submitting comments by:
 - Email to info@connahsquaylcp.co.uk
 - Post to FREEPOST CQLCP
 - Telephone at 0800 012 9156.

5.5 Part A: Section 42 Consultation

Introduction

5.5.1 The Applicant carried out Statutory Consultation with statutory consultees pursuant to section 42 of the 2008 Act between 8 October and 19 November 2024, in parallel with the section 47 consultation and section 48 publicity.

Identifying section 42 consultees

5.5.2 There are a number of different categories of consultee under section 42 of the 2008 Act. The sections below explain how the Applicant identified the consultees in each category. The consultees were identified using the draft Order limits used for the consultation. A full list of the section 42 consultees consulted as part of the Statutory Consultation is provided at **Appendix D: Distribution Lists and Sample Letters (Confidential)**.

Section 42(1)(a): such persons as may be prescribed

5.5.3 The Applicant consulted the Marine Management Organisation as the Proposed Development would likely affect the areas specified in section 42(2) of the 2008 Act (i.e. marine areas).

Section 42(1)(b): Each local authority that is within section 43

5.5.4 The local authorities within section 42(1)(b) of the 2008 Act for the purposes of the Statutory Consultation are identified in **Table 4**. The administrative boundaries of these authorities for the purposes of the Statutory Consultation are shown in **Figure 2**.

Table 4: Section 42(1)(b) local authorities for Statutory Consultation

Local Authority Name	Category within Section 43 of 2008 Act
Flintshire County Council	B
Cheshire West and Chester Council	B
Wirral Council (Metropolitan)	A
Chester East Council	A
Denbighshire County Council	A
Wrexham County Borough Council	A
Shropshire Council	A
Warrington Borough Council	A
Halton Borough Council	A
Liverpool City Council	A



Figure 2: Administrative boundaries of section 42(1)(b) authorities for Statutory Consultation

5.5.5 Following a reduction in the Site boundary that took place after the Statutory Consultation had ended, the land within the Site that fell within CWCC's administrative boundary was removed from the Site. This meant that the category within which CWCC falls changed from local authority (B) to local authority (A), and consequently Chester East, Shropshire, Warrington, Halton and Liverpool City Council were no longer adjoining local authority consultees under section 43 of the 2008 Act.

5.5.6 The local authorities within section 42(1)(b) of the 2008 Act for the purposes of the final project that is the subject of the DCO Application are identified in **Table 5**. **Figure 3** shows the administrative boundaries of these authorities.

Table 5: Section 42(1)(b) local authorities for DCO Application

Local Authority Name	Category within Section 43 of 2008 Act
Flintshire County Council	B
Cheshire West and Chester Council	A
Wirral Council (Metropolitan)	A
Denbighshire County Council	A
Wrexham County Borough Council	A



Figure 3: Administrative boundaries of section 42(1)(b) authorities for DCO Application

Section 42(1)(c): Greater London Authority

5.5.7 As the Site is not within Greater London, the Applicant did not consult the Greater London Authority.

Section 42(1)(d): Each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in section 44

5.5.8 Under section 42(1)(d) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant must consult each person who is within one or more of the three categories set out in section 44 of the 2008 Act. These categories are:

- Category 1: A person is within Category 1 if the Applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is an owner, lessee, tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land.
- Category 2: A person is within Category 2 if the Applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is interested in the land, or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land.
- Category 3: A person is within Category 3 if the Applicant thinks that, if the DCO were made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled as a result of (a) the implementing of the DCO, (b) the DCO having been implemented, or (c) use of the land once the DCO has been implemented, to make a 'relevant claim'. There are three types of relevant claim: a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (Ref 6); a claim under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 (Ref 7); and a claim under section 152(3) of the 2008 Act. A person is within Category 3 only if the person is known to the Applicant after making diligent inquiry. These parties were identified based on the Proposed Development proposals, redline boundaries, construction activities and environmental information available at the point of Statutory Consultation.

5.5.9 A full list of persons falling within section 44 of the 2008 Act is included within the **Book of Reference (EN010166/APP/4.1)** submitted with the Application.

5.5.10 Land referencers were appointed by the Applicant to complete a diligent enquiry process prior to and throughout the pre-application stage to identify relevant persons with an interest in the land. The following process was followed:

- Landowners and other interested parties were identified initially through title searches with the Land Registry. These searches were refreshed at regular intervals to ensure the information held was accurate. Previously unregistered areas of land were also periodically checked to ensure the land remained unregistered.
- Land referencing questionnaires, provided in **Appendix D-5: Sample Land Interest Questionnaire**, were issued to all interests identified through Land Registry searches. These forms sought to confirm the contact details of the affected parties and also to ask for details of any other parties who may hold an interest in the land. Where new interested parties were revealed, these parties were also issued with a request for information form to confirm the details provided. This confirmation process has been ongoing throughout all stages of consultation.
- Where ownership could not be determined or request for information forms were not returned, further reminder letters were issued and site visits were conducted. The site visits involved identifying and visiting potential landowner residences, neighbours and other properties to try and identify landowners and/or occupiers, and in areas where landowners were unknown, unregistered site notices were erected (see **Appendix C**).

17: Example Unregistered Site Notice). Land referencing questionnaires, provided in **Appendix D-5: Sample Land Interest Questionnaire**, requesting clarity on land ownership, and details of other persons with an interest in the land, were issued and completed on site where possible.

- Further information was obtained where possible with follow-up site visits, desktop research, letters, emails and telephone calls.
- S42(1)(d) letters were issued in hard copies in various groupings, listed below:
 - Landowners/land interests – cover letter, section 48 notice, land plan(s)
 - Statutory Undertakers – cover letter, section 48 notice
 - Category 3 potential claimants – cover letter, section 48 notice
 - Subsoil owners – cover letter, section 48 notice.

Consultation letters

5.5.11 The consultation letters were sent to the section 42 consultees on 2 October 2024 to arrive ahead of the consultation launch on 8 October 2024 (see **Appendix D-3: Sample Letters Sent to Section 42 Consultees**).

5.5.12 The letters notified consultees about the launch of the consultation on 8 October 2024, identified where consultees could view the consultation material, explained how consultees could respond to the consultation and confirmed the deadline for receipt of consultation responses, that being 19 November 2024.

5.5.13 The letters provided the URL address for the Proposed Development consultation website, where all the consultation documents could be downloaded and enclosed the section 48 notice.

5.5.14 After the launch of the Statutory Consultation, some additional section 42 consultees were identified. Upon those consultees being identified, consultation letters were sent to those consultees (on 29 October 2024 and 12 November 2024) and they were given a deadline for providing feedback of at least 28 days beginning on the day after the day on which they received the consultation letter (see **Appendix D-7: Additional Subsoil Interest Letters – November 2024**). A list of these consultees is provided within tab 2: Additional s42(1)(d) Oct & Nov of **Appendix D-2: List of Section 42(1)(d) Consultees (Confidential)**.

5.5.15 Very shortly before submission of the DCO application, despite diligent efforts earlier in the pre-application process to identify consultees, a number of new landowners were identified following an exercise to update landowner details in preparation for submission of the DCO application.

5.5.16 Paragraph 024 of the Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (Ref 8) states:

'Where new interests in land are identified very shortly before the intended submission of an application, despite diligent efforts earlier in the process, it may be difficult at that stage for applicants to consult and take account of any responses from those new interests before submitting their application as intended. If this situation arises applicants should be proactive and helpful in ensuring that the person understands

how they can, if they so wish, engage with the process if the application is accepted for examination.'

5.5.17 In line with the guidance, the Applicant sent the newly identified land interests a letter explaining how they could, if they wished, engage with the process if the DCO Application were to be accepted for examination. The letter was sent on 24 June 2025 (first update) and 17 July 2025 (see **Appendix D-8: Additional Subsoil Interest Letters – June 2025** and **Appendix D-9: Additional Subsoil Interest Letters – July 2025**). A list of these newly identified land interests is provided within tab 3: Additional land interests June and tab 4: Additional land interests July of **Appendix D-2: List of Section 42(1)(d) Consultees (Confidential)**.

5.6 Part B: Section 47 Consultation

Introduction

5.6.1 The Applicant carried out Statutory Consultation with the local community pursuant to section 47 of the 2008 Act between 8 October and 19 November 2024, in parallel with the section 42 consultation and section 48 publicity.

Identifying the local community

5.6.2 A PCZ was set by the Applicant to cover approximately a 5 km radius from the Site (see Figure 2 of the SoCC at **Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation**). The PCZ incorporates both the core settlements of Flint and Connah's Quay and residents and businesses along the A548 to the Port of Mostyn who may be impacted by the transportation of Abnormal Indivisible Loads during construction. All elements of the Proposed Development are located within this PCZ. Residents and businesses within the PCZ received the Proposed Development newsletters directly.

5.6.3 The Applicant identified 20,821 addresses in total within the PCZ at the Non-Statutory Consultation stage. The consultation zone was subsequently reviewed again ahead of the Statutory Consultation to ensure that it still effectively reflected the size of the Proposed Development and the needs of the local community.

5.6.4 Consequently, at the Statutory Consultation stage, the Applicant extended the PCZ to incorporate the updated indicative Order limits (as referred to in **Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation**). As a result, the PCZ at Statutory Consultation comprised 25,401 addresses and reflected the potential impacts of the delivery of Abnormal Indivisible Loads to the site during the construction phase.

5.6.5 In recognition of the expectation that there would be some people outside the PCZ who might be interested in the Proposed Development, the Applicant also set a Secondary Consultation Zone ('SCZ') to ensure all individuals, communities and organisations in the wider north west region were able to participate in the consultation. The SCZ covers a roughly 15 km radius from the Site (as referred to in **Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation**). This zone was originally designed to incorporate the area of potential visual impact that was identified as part of assessments for the PEIR. More details of this can be found in ES Volume

**(6), Chapter (15): (Landscape and Visual Amenity)
(EN010166/APP/6.2.15).**

5.6.6 The Applicant raised awareness of the Statutory Consultation within the SCZ using a number of methods, such as advertising and a press release sent out to local media, and engagement with parish and town councils. There were also three deposit locations in the SCZ.

Consultation events

5.6.7 The Applicant held in-person and online consultation events for anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development to attend, learn about the proposals and provide their feedback.

5.6.8 In-person events were held at venues within the PCZ and were publicised, alongside online events, in the Statutory Consultation Newsletter, Statutory Consultation Poster, Statutory Consultation Advertisement and Statutory Consultation Press Release. Interested parties could register to attend online events via the Proposed Development consultation website or by contacting the Proposed Development team directly. Consultation events were held at the following dates, times and locations:

- Online webinar 1 – Saturday 19 October 2024, 11:00 to 12:00
- Online webinar 2 – Tuesday 22 October 2024, 13:00 to 14:00
- Conference Centre, Coleg Cambria Deeside, Kelsterton Road, Connah's Quay CH6 5NW – Wednesday 23 October 2024, 16:00 to 20:00
- Flint Town Hall, Holywell Street, Flint CH6 5NW – Saturday 26 October 2024, 11:00 to 16:00
- Online webinar 3 – Monday 4 November 2024, 18:00 to 19:00
- Connah's Quay Cricket Club, 5 Cable Street, Connah's Quay CH5 4DZ – Thursday 7 November 2024, 13:00 to 18:00.

5.6.9 In addition to these advertised consultation events, the Applicant also held a pop-up event in a local high footfall location to speak with people that may not have had the time or opportunity to attend an event. The pop-up event was held during the day at Flint Library on Friday 25 October 2024.

5.6.10 A total of 66 people attended the in-person events and approximately seven persons attended the online webinars.

Newsletter

5.6.11 A Statutory Consultation Newsletter (see **Appendix C-2: Statutory Consultation Newsletter**) was issued on 1 October 2024 to 25,401 homes and businesses within the PCZ ahead of the Statutory Consultation.

Briefings and emails to local community stakeholders

5.6.12 Briefings with key political stakeholders were offered prior to the public consultation events, to provide an opportunity for feedback and input. Briefings were conducted remotely using webinars or offered in-person at the consultation exhibition events. The briefings targeted key affected

stakeholders, including FCC and CWCC², the host Member(s) of the UK Parliament and the Senedd, host ward councillors, portfolio holders and host community councils.

5.6.13 Emails were sent on Wednesday 2 October 2024 to the host authorities and interested consultees to notify them of the commencement of the Statutory Consultation and to provide information about the community events.

Community outreach

5.6.14 A range of online and offline communication methods were used to engage a large number of people in the consultation process, as explained throughout this section.

5.6.15 The Statutory Consultation Newsletter and Statutory Consultation Brochure were written in an easy to understand, plain English style. The Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR was provided in non-technical language to summarise the findings of the PEIR. The feedback form was designed in an easy-to-use format that provided structure for consultees while ensuring that they had the opportunity to provide any other comments they might have about the Proposed Development.

5.6.16 A Freephone number, staffed by the Applicant's community relations team, was available throughout the Statutory Consultation period. The Project's contact channels received a total of 68 telephone calls, with general Project-related queries, during the Statutory Consultation. A Freepost service was also available for people to send feedback by post if desired.

Traveller site

5.6.17 As explained in the **Planning Statement (EN010166/APP/7.6)** there is a traveller site located to the south-west of the Main Development Area between Kelsterton Road (to the north) and the A548 Chester Road (to the south). The traveller site is not permanently occupied and lies outside the Order limits. It is understood to be an informal traveller site that it is not identified for traveller accommodation on the Proposals Map of the Flintshire Local Development Plan (LDP) or under Policy HN8: Gypsy and Traveller Sites of the LDP.

5.6.18 At the time of the statutory consultation on the Proposed Development, the traveller site (which is outside of the Order limits) was not occupied. Notwithstanding this, during its non-statutory and statutory consultations on the Proposed Development, the Applicant has used a wide range of consultation methods in order to reach all sections of the local community within the vicinity of the Site, including hard to reach and seldom heard groups, and provided a number of different ways in which people could learn about the Proposed Development and provide comments. The consultation methods used and ways in which people could engage with the non-statutory and statutory consultations are set out in **Section 2** and **Section 4** of this Report. Information about how the Applicant sought to consult with hard to reach and seldom heard groups is contained within **Appendix F-1: Compliance Checklist** of this Report.

² Please see note above regarding the status of CWCC as a host authority, which confirms that, whilst CWCC was a host authority for the purposes of the Statutory Consultation, it is not a host authority for the purposes of the Application.

5.6.19 In addition, the Applicant has sought to engage with the FCC Traveller Liaison Officer with regard to the traveller site and will continue to seek to do so during the pre-examination and examination periods.

5.7 Part C: Section 48 Publicity Introduction

5.7.1 The Applicant publicised the proposed application pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act, in parallel with the section 42 and section 47 consultation.

Publication of section 48 notice

5.7.2 A copy of the notice published as part of the Statutory Consultation in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act is provided in **Appendix C-15: Section 48 Newspaper Notices**. This notice contained the prescribed information required by Regulation 4(3) of the APFP Regulations.

5.7.3 The Applicant published the section 48 notice in the newspapers and on the dates set out in **Table 6** in accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations.

Table 6: Details of newspaper publication of section 48 notice

Newspaper	Date of advertisement
The Times	3 October 2024
The London Gazette	3 October 2024
Lloyds List	3 October 2024
Fishing News	3 October 2024
Deeside.com ³	3 and 10 October 2024
The Leader	3 and 10 October 2024
Chester Standard	3 and 10 October 2024

Consultation bodies

5.7.4 The Proposed Development is an EIA development. Therefore, in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, the Applicant enclosed a hard copy of the section 48 notice with the letters sent to all section 42 consultees, including the consultation bodies, in advance of the consultation commencing on 8 October 2024.

5.8 Part D: Notifications under Regulation 8 and Section 46

5.8.1 In accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, the Applicant notified the Secretary of State, as part of its Scoping Report (see ES Volume (6), **Appendix (1-A): Scoping Report (EN010166/APP/6.4)** submitted on 8 February 2024, that it proposed to provide an environmental statement in respect of the development.

³ Due to Deeside.com being an online-only publication, the Applicant was unable to obtain evidence at the time of publication that the notice was online for a second week from 10 to 17 October 2024. However, the Applicant has now obtained evidence of this publication via an email confirmation from the publisher that the section 48 notice was published on Deeside.com from 3 October 2024 to 17 October 2024 (see **Appendix C-15: Section 48 Newspaper Notices**).

Section 46

5.8.2 In accordance with section 46 of the 2008 Act, the Applicant wrote to the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 1 October 2024 in advance of section 42 Statutory Consultation commencing on 8 October 2024. A copy of that letter and a copy of the Acknowledgment of the Section 46 Notification dated 7 October 2024 is in **Appendix D-4: Section 46 Notification and Acknowledgment**.

5.8.3 The letter provided details of where the consultation materials could be accessed.

5.9 Part E: Responses to Consultation

Introduction

5.9.1 This section of the Report explains the level and nature of feedback received by the Applicant in response to the Statutory Consultation.

Number of consultation responses received

5.9.2 A total of 133 relevant responses were received to the Applicant's Statutory Consultation. Responses were accepted until 12 December 2024. A late response from National Highways was accepted on 1 July 2025.

5.9.3 **Table 7** shows the breakdown of response types received during the consultation:

Table 7: Breakdown of response types received during the consultation

Method of response submission	Total
Online feedback form	79
Hard copy feedback form	3
Email	48
Letter	0
Telephone	3
Total	133

Feedback form

5.9.4 The feedback form (see **Appendix C-4: Statutory Consultation Feedback Form**) was made up of questions about the consultee, the need for and proposed location of the Proposed Development, the consultation and the PEIR, and one box in which consultees could provide any additional comments.

5.9.5 The questions on the feedback form, and the number of responses received to each question, are set out in **Table 8**.

Table 8: Feedback form responses

Question	Number of responses
<p>Section One</p> <p>1. How would you describe your interest in our proposals?</p> <p>2. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please confirm this below, ensuring you have the authorisation to do so.</p> <p>3. Are there any particular aspects of the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project proposals that you are most interested in or that you would like to know more about?</p>	<p>Section One</p> <p>1. 104</p> <p>2. 70</p> <p>3. 70</p>
<p>Section Two</p> <p>1. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Climate change is an important issue and action should be taken to address it.</p> <p>2. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: The UK needs to develop new low carbon gas fired power stations, alongside an increased roll out of other low carbon technologies such as wind, solar and nuclear, to ensure secure and stable supplies of electricity at all times.</p> <p>3. Based on the information you have seen so far, do you support the development of new gas fired power stations with carbon capture and storage technology?</p> <p>4. At this early stage of the project, do you support the development of a new gas fired low carbon power station, with carbon capture and storage technology at Connah's Quay?</p> <p>5. Which of the potential benefits of the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project proposals do you think are the most important? Please rank each option in order of importance, with 1 as the 'most important', to 4 as the 'least important', or select 'I don't think any of these are benefits'.</p> <p>6. Do you have any other comments relating to the need for a new low carbon power station or the benefits that it could deliver? Please provide any additional comments below.</p>	<p>Section Two</p> <p>1. 72</p> <p>2. 71</p> <p>3. 72</p> <p>4. 72</p> <p>5. 21</p> <p>6. 31</p>
<p>Section Three</p> <p>1. Please indicate how suitable you believe the existing Connah's Quay site is to develop a new low carbon power station?</p> <p>2. How suitable do you believe the proposed layout of the site would be based on our updated site map?</p> <p>3. Do you have any other comments relating to the potential location of a new low carbon power station at the existing Connah's Quay site, or about the indicative site layout? In particular, are there any possible impacts or issues relating to the proposed location that we should be aware of? Please provide any additional comments below.</p>	<p>Section Three</p> <p>1. 69</p> <p>2. 66</p> <p>3. 53</p>

Question	Number of responses
<p>Section Four</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the information that has been provided, do you support the development of a new gas-fired power station with carbon capture technology, which would be able to flexibly and reliably generate low carbon electricity to meet the growing need for power, whenever it is required? 2. Do you have any other comments relating to the proposals to develop a combined cycle gas turbine power station with carbon capture technology in Connah's Quay? 3. Based on the updated information you have been provided, do you support the development of carbon capture and storage technology, which would capture at least 95% of the CO₂ emissions produced by the plant? 4. Do you have any other comments relating to the initial proposals to develop carbon capture technology as part of the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project? In particular, do you have any concerns about possible impacts or issues relating to the proposed technology that we should be aware of. Please add any additional comments below: 	<p>Section Four</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 71 2. 23 3. 66 4. 37
<p>Section Five</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having reviewed the PEIR, do you have any comments on the assessment of the potential effects the project could have on any of the topics listed above, as well as the measures proposed to mitigate those effects? Please identify any specific topics you would like to address. 2. Are there any environmental topics not included in our list that you feel should be included for assessment? 	<p>Section Five</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 59 2. 25
<p>Section Six</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We would welcome any other comments you would like to make about the CQLCP project. Please use the space below to address any topics not covered elsewhere in the feedback form. 	<p>Section Six</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 41
<p>Section Seven</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How did you hear about the consultation? 2. How informative did you find our consultation materials? 3. Did you attend either a consultation exhibition or a virtual webinar? 4. If yes, how informative did you find the event you attended? 5. Would you like to hear more about any specific issues? 6. Do you have any comments on how we could improve the accessibility of our consultation materials, including our brochure? 7. Do you need any additional support to help you participate in future consultation activity for this project? 	<p>Section Seven</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 78 2. 72 3. 71 4. 44 5. 63 6. 63 7. 69

Consideration of responses

5.9.6 The information contained within the consultation responses was collated into a spreadsheet and categorised by consultee category and theme.

5.9.7 The Applicant then undertook a careful and thorough review of the consultation responses received in accordance with the relevant guidance, with consideration of how regard could be given to the responses.

5.9.8 **Appendix E: Consultation Responses** breaks down each of the strands of consultation (section 42, section 47 and section 48):

- Summarising the responses received by the Applicant, grouped into headline issues;
- Explaining how the Applicant had regard to these responses
- Identifying whether changes were made to the Proposed Development as a result of the responses
- If no changes were made, providing an explanation of why not.

5.9.9 The Applicant has identified the key themes of feedback raised during the consultation as relating to:

- the suitability of the site location
- potential impacts on air quality and human health
- carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology
- visual and landscape impacts
- effects on ecology and biodiversity
- the construction process, including traffic and disruption
- community benefits.

6. Targeted Consultation

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 Following the Statutory Consultation held in 2024, the Applicant has continued to develop and refine the proposals for the Project. As part of this process, a non-statutory Targeted Consultation (hereafter referred to as the 'Targeted Consultation') was held from 8 May 2025 to 6 June 2025. This consultation was held to provide the local community and key stakeholders with an opportunity to review and comment on a specific design update: an increase to the proposed emission stack heights (hereafter referred to as 'the Proposed Change').

6.1.2 While this change did not fundamentally alter the nature or scope of the Proposed Development, and did not necessitate the inclusion of any new land/interests within the proposed Order limits, the Applicant considered it good practice to carry out the Targeted Consultation to ensure transparency and provide stakeholders with an opportunity to share their views. Regard was had to feedback received during this period ahead of submission of the application.

6.1.3 In addition to the Proposed Change, the Applicant also made a number of other design refinements after the close of the Statutory Consultation. These other changes are considered non-material in nature. As such, the Applicant did not specifically seek feedback on them as part of the Targeted Consultation. However, any comments received in relation to the other changes were also reviewed and taken into consideration in finalising the proposals.

6.1.4 In line with Section 6.1 of the 'Statement of Community Consultation' (SoCC) document (see **Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation**), which states that *"Should we carry out any further stages of limited, focused consultation prior to submission of the DCO application, we will use some, but not necessarily all, of these means of consultation. We will work with the relevant local authorities to assist us in deciding the most appropriate activities for any further stages of consultation,"* the Applicant engaged with officers at FCC in advance of the Targeted Consultation to discuss the proposed approach. FCC did not raise any concerns with the proposed approach.

6.1.5 This included a meeting on Wednesday 26 March 2025 with the Case Officer at FCC to review the planned consultation activities and to ensure the Council was content with the methods and level of engagement. The Targeted Consultation focused on a specific design change and was carried out in accordance with the commitments made in the SoCC regarding additional stages of engagement, ensuring the approach remained proportionate and effective.

6.1.6 On 8 May 2025, letters were issued to the following consultees: persons who no longer fell within section 42(1)(d) of the 2008 Act due to changes to the Order limits; local authorities that no longer fell within section 42(1)(b) due to changes to the Order limits; local authorities remaining within section 42(1)(b); other interested bodies; and relevant non-prescribed consultees. The letters provided details of the Targeted Consultation, the proposed change and how to provide feedback. A copy of a newsletter (the 'Targeted

Consultation Newsletter') was also enclosed. See **Appendix G-5: Stakeholder letters** for a copy of the letters. On 22 May 2025, the Applicant identified that 13 neighbouring town and community councils had not received the original consultation letter issued at the start of the Targeted Consultation. While these councils were initially intended to be included in the consultee list, due to an administrative oversight, they were inadvertently omitted from the final version used for distribution.

- 6.1.7 To rectify this, letters were issued by first-class post to the 13 councils on the same day, informing them of the ongoing Targeted Consultation. The correspondence included details of the proposals and consultation materials and extended the formal deadline for their responses to Monday 23 June 2025.
- 6.1.8 The councils inadvertently missed were Holywell, Northop, Shotton, Hawarden, Bagillt, Sealand, Halkyn, Neston, Northop Hall, Whitford, Brynford, Llanasa and Mostyn.
- 6.1.9 The materials for the Targeted Consultation were available for inspection from 8 May 2025 to 23 June 2025, to allow for the additional councils notified to be able to access the materials. The materials were hosted at the following information points: Buckley Library, The Precinct, Brunswick Rd, Buckley CH7 2EF; Flint Library, Church Street, Flint CH6 5AP; Connah's Quay Library, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay CH5 4HA; and Neston Library, Parkgate Road, Neston CH64 6QE.
- 6.1.10 The materials were also made available on the Proposed Development consultation website (<https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/>) during the consultation period for the Targeted Consultation.
- 6.1.11 The Targeted Consultation was publicised through the following means:
 - In a press release (see **Appendix G-7: Press Release**), which was issued on 7 May 2025, the day prior to the consultation launch
 - On the Proposed Development consultation website at: <https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/project-consultation-documents-3/>
 - In the Targeted Consultation Newsletter (see **Appendix G-1: Targeted Consultation Materials**), which was delivered on 8 May 2025 to 25,401 addresses within a 5 km radius of the Site comprising the PCZ (see Section 5.6 of this Report for further details)
 - In a digital advert (the 'Targeted Consultation digital advert') (see **Appendix G-2: Targeted Consultation Advert**), which was published on the websites for The Leader, the Wirral Globe and The Chester Standard. These adverts appeared online from 7 May 2025 for a period of two weeks. The advert also appeared on 'Deeside.com', where it appeared online from 7 May 2025 and ran for a week.
 - In print adverts (the 'Targeted Consultation print advert') (see **Appendix G-3: Targeted Consultation Advertisement**), which were published in local print media publications The Leader, the Wirral Globe and The Chester Standard. These ran from 7/8 May 2025, prior to the start of the consultation, for two weeks.
- 6.1.12 As part of the Targeted Consultation, the Applicant also published a 'Supporting Information Report' (see **Appendix G-1: Targeted Consultation Materials**). This document was prepared to provide further detail specifically

on the Proposed Change, which was the primary focus of the Targeted Consultation.

- 6.1.13 In addition to outlining the Proposed Change, the report also outlined the other non-material changes to the Project that had been made since the Statutory Consultation. These were documented in the interest of transparency and to keep the local community and stakeholders fully informed of the Project's development.
- 6.1.14 The Supporting Information Report was made publicly available on the Proposed Development consultation website from 8 May 2025 to ensure stakeholders and consultees could access clear and detailed information about the updates to the proposals and their potential environmental implications.

6.2 Responses to Targeted Consultation

- 6.2.1 Respondents were able to provide feedback by sending an email to info@connahsquaylcp.co.uk or writing to the Applicant at FREEPOST CQLCP (no stamp required). Respondents also had the opportunity to contact the freephone telephone line by calling 0800 0129156.
- 6.2.2 Responses to the Targeted Consultation could be provided in the methods set out in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Methods of responding to Targeted Consultation

Method of providing response	Number of consultation responses received
Email	65
Post	0
Telephone	0
TOTAL RESPONSES	65

- 6.2.3 A summary of the topics raised in the responses received to the Targeted Consultation and the regard had to those by the Applicant is provided in **Appendix G-8: Regard Had to Statutory Bodies Responses** and **Appendix G-9: Regard Had to Local Community/General Public Responses**.

7. Non-Statutory Engagement

7.1 Overview of non-statutory engagement

- 7.1.1 In addition to the stages of Non-Statutory and Statutory Consultation set out above, the Applicant also undertook non-statutory engagement through meetings/briefings with stakeholders.
- 7.1.2 An outline of non-statutory engagement that has been undertaken can be found in **Appendix H: Ongoing Engagement**. This demonstrates the extensive engagement that the Applicant has undertaken throughout the pre-application process.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1.1 As explained throughout this Report, the Applicant carried out comprehensive pre-application consultation on its proposals prior to submitting the Application, including a four-week Non-Statutory Consultation, a six-week Statutory Consultation and a four-week non-statutory Targeted Consultation. The pre-application Statutory Consultation accorded with the requirements of the 2008 Act, the APFP Regulations and the EIA Regulations and had regard to guidance issued under section 50(3) of the 2008 Act. In addition, the Applicant undertook non-statutory engagement throughout the pre-application stage.
- 8.1.2 The Applicant consulted in a variety of ways to maximise consultee participation. A large number of consultees provided feedback, and the Applicant is grateful to all those who took the time to engage in the consultation process.
- 8.1.3 The Applicant had careful regard to the consultation responses received as it finalised the Application for the Proposed Development, as explained in detail in this report and in **Appendix A: Non-Statutory Consultation; Appendix E: Consultation Responses and Appendix G: Targeted Consultation.**

References

Ref 1. HMSO (2008) The Planning Act 2008 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/content> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 2. HMSO (2009) The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ksi/2009/2264/made> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 3. HMSO (2017) The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ksi/2017/572> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 4. Planning Inspectorate (2024) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report (Online). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-advice-on-the-consultation-report> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 5. Planning Inspectorate (2024) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus (Online). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-2024-pre-application-prospectus> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 6. HMSO (1965) Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1965/56/contents> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 7. HMSO (1973) Land Compensation Act 1973 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1973/26/contents> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Ref 8. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2024) Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (Online). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects> (Accessed on 13 December 2024).

Glossary

Term	Definition
Carbon Capture and Storage	<p>Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a key part of the process to reduce carbon emissions in energy generation. It involves the removal and capture of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from power plant emissions, transporting it away to be securely stored underground, often in aquifers or depleted oil and gas fields.</p> <p>CCUS also refers to carbon capture and storage but with the 'U' referring to utilisation of the captured CO₂. Captured CO₂ can be used for a variety of industrial purposes, such as the production of synthetic fuel and low carbon building materials, or in the food and beverage industry.</p>
Combined Cycle Gas Turbine	<p>Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) units are a form of highly efficient electricity generation technology that combines a gas-fired turbine with a steam turbine. In a CCGT plant, a gas turbine generator produces electricity, and the waste heat is recovered from the gas turbine's exhaust to make steam. This drives a steam turbine to generate additional electricity. It is this last step, which enhances the efficiency of electricity generation.</p>
Development Consent Order	<p>A Development Consent Order (DCO) is needed as it gives permission to construct and maintain a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP, see entry below). Engagement with national and local stakeholders, including the public, is an important element of the DCO consenting process.</p>
Environmental Impact Assessment	<p>For the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power project, the Applicant has conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment to identify and assess the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the project.</p>
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project	<p>A Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) is a major proposal considered by the Government to be of such importance that the permission to build and operate it needs to be confirmed at national level by the relevant Secretary of State. Examples include projects such as power plants, large wind farms, major road projects, new airports and reservoirs. In Wales, power stations with a generation capacity of more than 350MW are classed as NSIPs.⁴</p>
Preliminary Environmental Information Report	<p>A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) – which contains preliminary environmental information on the likely effects of the project – was consulted upon as part of our Statutory Consultation, from 8 October to 19 November 2024.</p>
Primary Consultation Zone	<p>Prior to our Non-Statutory Consultation in March 2024, we developed a Primary Consultation Zone ('PCZ') which comprised the homes and businesses surrounding the existing Connah's Quay Power Station site. As the project developed ahead of Statutory Consultation, we extended the PCZ to ensure that it effectively reflected the proposed development. See section 5.6.2 of this report for further information.</p>

⁴ [Planning Act 2008 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

Term	Definition
Secondary Consultation Zone	In recognition of the expectation that there would be some people outside the PCZ who might be interested in the Proposed Development, the Applicant also set a Secondary Consultation Zone ('SCZ') to ensure all individuals, communities, and organisations in the wider north west region were able to participate in the consultation. The SCZ covers a roughly 15 km radius from the Site (as referred to in Appendix B-3: Statement of Community Consultation).
Statement of Community Consultation	As part of the DCO pre-application process, the Applicant was required to publish a statement to explain how it would consult with the local community – known as an SoCC.

Abbreviations

Term	Abbreviation
Carbon Capture and Storage	CCS
Carbon Capture Plant	CCP
Carbon Dioxide	CO ₂
Cheshire West and Chester Council	CWCC
Combined Cyle Gas Turbine	CCGT
Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power	CQLCP
Development Consent Order	DCO
Environmental Impact Assessment	EIA
Environmental Statement	ES
Flintshire County Council	FCC
Megawatts	MW (MWe used for electrical output)
National Grid Electricity Transmission	NGET
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project	NSIP
Preliminary Environmental Information Report	PEIR
Primary Consultation Zone	PCZ
Secondary Consultation Zone	SCZ
Statement of Community Consultation	SoCC

