

Planning Act 2008

Application by Uniper UK for an order granting development consent for the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power Project (EN010166)

Written Representation by Historic England

Historic England formally 'The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England') is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. We are the UK Government's statutory adviser and a statutory consultee on all aspects of the historic environment and its heritage assets in England. This includes archaeology on land and underwater, historic buildings, sites and areas, designated landscapes and the historic elements of the wider landscape. We work in partnership with central government departments, local authorities, voluntary bodies and the private sector to conserve and enhance the historic environment, broaden public access to our cultural heritage, and increase people's understanding and appreciation of the past.

The Environmental Statement included with the application assesses the potential impact of the proposed development upon Terrestrial Heritage in Chapter 17, and upon Marine Heritage in Chapter 18. Both assessments appear to be broadly in accordance with current best practice.

The ES confirms that all physical construction works would be sited in Wales and therefore do not fall within the remit of Historic England. An area in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire West & Chester, is however specified for assessment on the grounds that the dock there may be used for the transport of plant and equipment.

In setting out the baseline conditions for the assessment of the potential impact of the proposed development on Terrestrial Heritage, the ES identifies two scheduled monuments sited in England as sensitive receptors. Both are within the defined study areas for highly graded heritage assets; however, they are at some distance from the indicative site boundary, with the nearer being 3km to the North East, and the other 4km away.

Chapter 17 of the ES assesses the potential impact of the proposed development upon the settings of the two highly graded heritage assets identified as sensitive receptors. At 17.6.21, the permanent changes, and at 17.6.23 the temporary changes to the setting of the Promontory fort on Burton Point (National Heritage List for England entry number 1013298) during the construction phase are assessed as having a very low magnitude of impact upon the setting of the scheduled monument. The conclusion is that these are not significant. A similar assessment is made at 17.6.40 of the permanent changes, and at 17.6.42 of the temporary changes during the construction phase to the setting of the scheduled St Andrew's medieval hospital and limekiln, Denhall (NHLE 1007635). Chapter 18 of the ES identifies no potential impacts on marine heritage sited in English waters.

Historic England considers that the assessment of potential impacts on heritage assets has been carried out in an appropriate manner, and that the very low magnitude of impact identified accurately reflects the potential impact of the proposed development on the settings of designated terrestrial heritage assets and marine heritage sited in England. We agree that the temporary impact of the proposed development on the settings of the two scheduled monuments during the construction phase is not significant, and that there would be no impact on known marine heritage in English waters.

Given the very limited impact of the proposed development on Terrestrial and Marine Heritage situated in England, we do not consider that any additional mitigation measures for that impact are necessary.