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Your Ref: EN010166  
Our Ref: 94595

The Planning Inspectorate  
c/o QUADIENT  
69 Buckingham Avenue  
Slough SL1 4PN

10<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project**  
**EN010166 – The Connah’s Quay Low Carbon Power Project**  
**The Examining Authority’s written questions and requests for information (ExQ1)**

With reference to the above request, we have provided answers to the specific questions asked to us.

*Human Health*

ExQ19.1 Electro-magnetic field effects. What are the risks, likelihood and effects that may arise from the presence of high voltage electro-magnetic effects from the plant generation, overhead and underground cabling in close proximity to residences?

The UKHSA’s main advice on electromagnetic fields (EMFs) is that they should comply with the exposure guidelines published by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), in which case there should be no consequences for public health. The ICNIRP guidelines apply for the whole population, including children, and people of varying health status, which may include particularly susceptible groups or individuals. The [National Policy Statement for electricity networks infrastructure \(EN-5\)](#) refers to the ICNIRP guidelines and the relevant voluntary codes of practice for the utility industry.

As mentioned in UKHSA’s response to the PEIR consultation, applicants are expected to consider the possible health impacts of electric and magnetic fields associated with the project, in line with the following code of practice, which defines the criteria for demonstrating compliance with the public exposure guidelines:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a796799ed915d07d35b5397/1256-code-practice-emf-public-exp-guidelines.pdf>

Further information on the effects and rationale is available in the following advice document (under section entitled “Electric and Magnetic Fields”) produced by Public Health England, a UKHSA predecessor body:

<https://khub.net/documents/135939561/390856715/Advice+on+the+content+of+environmental+statements+accompanying+an+application+under+the+Nationally+Significant+Infrastructure+Planning+Regime.pdf/a86b5521-46cc-98e4-4cad-f81a6c58f2e2?t=1615998516658>

Exposure from powerlines decay rapidly with distance and would be expected to be well within the applicable public exposure guidelines at and beyond 175 m.

### *Major Accidents and Disasters*

ExQ20.1 Accidental release of CO<sub>2</sub> ([APP-042] Ref: 6.2.4.4.15). What is risk, likelihood and consequence of an accidental release of CO<sub>2</sub> from the proposed development site or CO<sub>2</sub> corridor and how is this mitigated? The submitted documents note that new pipework would be designed to prevent accidental release or rupture but how will this also be assured with the existing pipework?

We note this question has also been referred to the applicant. They will be required to model reasonable worst case potential impacts and justify appropriate controls. A catastrophic failure from a pressured pipeline would result in significant noise and cold gas release. In terms of the consequence of a CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) release occurring, any adverse health effects will depend upon several factors, including the amount to which you are exposed (dose), the way you are exposed, the duration of exposure, the form of the chemical and if you were exposed to any other chemicals. Exposure to low levels of carbon dioxide in the environment would not be expected to cause adverse health effects. Higher levels in an enclosed space can reduce the amount of oxygen available in the air nearby. This can lead to asphyxiation and the higher the carbon dioxide concentration, the worse symptoms may get.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully

On behalf of UK Health Security Agency  
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*Please mark any correspondence for the attention of National Infrastructure Planning Administration*