

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
By email to:
keadbynextgeneration@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Reference: OR-0013643/01
Customer reference: EN0110001

16 October 2026

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)
Rules 2010**

**Application by Keadby Next Generation Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order
granting Development Consent for the proposed Keadby Next Generation
Power Station Project (“the Proposed Development”)**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 6 October 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the above request for
information.

We provide the following comments.

Decarbonisation Readiness Assessment

3. The Secretary of State understands that whilst the Environmental Permit application was submitted to the Environment Agency prior to the Environmental Permitting (Electricity Generating Stations) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (“the 2025 Regulations”) coming into force, the Applicant has provided a Decarbonisation Readiness Assessment (which she understands purports to be a Decarbonisation Readiness Report under the 2025 Regulations) with its Environmental Permit application. The Secretary of State also understands that the Environment Agency is assessing this report as part of the Applicant’s Environmental Permit application.

4. Can the Environment Agency please:

a. Confirm that the Environment Agency has powers to treat the Environmental Permit application and the associated Decarbonisation Readiness Assessment as having been submitted in accordance with Schedule 25C to the Environmental

Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 as inserted by the 2025 Regulations.

We can confirm this.

Voluntary submission of Decarbonisation Readiness reports is explained in section 3.3 of our guidance: [Decarbonisation readiness in environmental permit applications - GOV.UK](#)

b. Advise whether, in determining the Environmental Permit application under Schedule 25C, the Environment Agency will assess both carbon capture readiness and hydrogen conversion readiness, or only the decarbonisation pathway relied upon in the Decarbonisation Readiness Assessment. If the Environment Agency will only assess hydrogen conversion readiness, please explain what role, if any, it will have in assessing or otherwise considering compliance with carbon capture readiness requirements.

Historically Assessment of compliance with Carbon Capture Readiness requirements would ordinarily occur during the examination phase of the DCO process. However, we do not consider that assessment of the Carbon Capture Readiness Report is necessary in the circumstances of this case.

This is a unique situation in which the DCO application and Environmental Permit application have progressed during a period of legislative change, with responsibility for Carbon Capture Readiness requirements moving from the planning regime to the environmental permitting regime.

The Decarbonisation Readiness Report (relating to hydrogen conversion) will be assessed as part of the Environmental Permit determination process. If the Environmental Permit is granted, it will include the Decarbonisation Readiness conditions. The relevant readiness requirements will in any event be considered and secured through the permitting process.

If you have any questions regarding our response, please contact NIteam@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,


Planning Advisor – National Infrastructure team
NIteam@environment-agency.gov.uk