UK Government

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

www.gov.uk/desnz

To:

Our Ref: EN0110001

Environment Agency
Keadby Next Generation Limited

6 November 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

**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**

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 19 June 2026, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application to the Secretary of State on 6 August 2026.

2. On 27 October 2026 the Secretary of State decided to extend the statutory deadline to 16 December 2026, and the extension has been confirmed in a statement to Parliament in accordance with section 107(7) of Planning Act 2008.

3. There are matters on which the Secretary of State would be grateful if the Applicant and the Environment Agency could provide information as appropriate.

**Carbon Capture Readiness Statement**

4. In its response to the Secretary of State's letter dated 24 September 2026, which invited all Interested Parties to comment on responses to the first request for information dated 4 September 2026, the Applicant stated that the Environment Agency's comments on the Carbon Capture Readiness Statement concerned the standard required for an environmental permit application. The Applicant considered that the statement submitted with the DCO application conforms with the precedent and meets legal requirements for DCO applications. It added that the Environment Agency had also confirmed this by email to the Applicant on 1 October 2026.

5. The **Environment Agency** is requested to confirm this statement and provide a copy of their 1 October email to the Secretary of State.

**Decarbonisation Readiness Conditions**

6. The **Applicant** and **Environment Agency** are requested to provide comments on the following proposed amendments to the Order relating to the applied for environmental permit for the Proposed Development and decarbonisation readiness conditions (amendments are indicated in bold and underline).

**Schedule 2 Paragraph 1(1)**

***"decarbonisation readiness conditions" means all the conditions at paragraph 9(4)(a) to (c) of Schedule 25C to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016;***

*"environmental permit" means a permit granted pursuant to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016(a) (or any such licence, authorisation or consent as may replace it)* ***subject to the modification specified in paragraph 1(3).***

**Schedule 2 Paragraph 1(3)**

***(3) The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 apply to any environmental permit application for the authorised development as if that application were submitted to the Environment Agency after the date on which the Environmental Permitting (Electricity Generating Stations) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 came into force.***

**Schedule 2 Requirement 30**

*30. —(1) Until such time as an environmental permit* ***that includes the decarbonisation readiness conditions*** *is granted for the authorised development, the undertaker shall not, without the consent of the Secretary of State—*

*(a) dispose of any interest in Work No. 11; or*

*(b) except for use as a laydown area (which for the avoidance of doubt includes any temporary use of the land for construction purposes associated with the authorised development) during the construction of the authorised development, do any other thing, or allow any other thing to be done or to occur, which may reasonably be expected to diminish the undertaker's ability within two years of such action or occurrence, to prepare the carbon capture readiness reserve space for the installation and operation of carbon capture equipment, should it be deemed necessary to do so.*

**Schedule 2 Requirement 31**

*31.—(1) The undertaker shall submit a written report ('carbon capture readiness monitoring report') to the Secretary of State—*

*(a) on or before the date on which three months have passed from the commissioning of the authorised development; and*

*(b) within one month of the second anniversary, and each subsequent even numbered anniversary, of that date.*

*(2) Each carbon capture readiness monitoring report shall—*

*(a) provide evidence that the undertaker has complied with requirement 30;*

*(b) state whether the undertaker considers the retrofit of carbon capture technology is feasible, explaining the reasons for any such conclusion and whether any impediments could be overcome; and*

*(c) state, with reasons, whether the undertaker has decided to seek any additional regulatory clearances, or to modify any existing regulatory clearances, in respect of any carbon capture readiness proposals.*

*(3) This requirement shall cease to have effect upon the date that an environmental permit* ***that includes the decarbonisation readiness conditions*** *is granted for the authorised development.*

**Climate Change Assessment**

7. The Secretary of State notes Chapter 18 of the ES assumes that the Proposed Development would be operational for 25 years [APP-052 – 18.6.12]. The **Applicant** is requested to identify whether the assumed operational lifetime of the Proposed Development would be secured through the DCO, environmental permit or any other mechanism, and specify the relevant provisions. If the assumed operational lifetime of the Proposed Development is not currently secured by any mechanism, the Applicant is requested to provide without-prejudice proposed drafting for the DCO that would secure that the operational lifetime of Proposed Development would not exceed 25 years.

**DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE**

8. The deadline for responses is **23:59** on **15 November 2026**.

9. Responses should be submitted by email only to: keadbynextgeneration@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

10. Responses will be published on the Keadby Next Generation Power Station Project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as possible after the 15 November 2026:

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110001

11. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Proposed Development or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully,

John Wheadon

John Wheadon

Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery & Innovation

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero