



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN030002
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Steven Parker
<b>Date</b>	6 August 2014
<b>Meeting with</b>	Keuper Gas Storage Ltd
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Tom Carpen Steven Parker <b>Keuper Gas Storage Ltd</b> Richard Stevenson Robin Craig Dave Peterson Rebecca Eatwell Rosanne McGuigan Jonathan Leary Victoria Longmore
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	For the developer to update the Planning Inspectorate on the progress of their project
<b>Circulation</b>	All Attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

#### Introduction

The Planning Inspectorate outlined its openness policy and ensured the developer understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Planning Inspectorate's website under s.51 of the Planning Act 2008. Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the developer (or others) can rely.

#### Project Update

Keuper Gas Storage Ltd (KGSL) are continuing to work on engineering details and the cavity locations are fixed. They are concentrating on the layout of roads and pipelines within the site.

The proposed landscaping plan has been completed and will be shared with land owners very shortly as part of on-going consultation.

## **Connections**

The Planning Inspectorate asked for an update on gas and electricity connections.

KGSL are in on-going discussion with National Grid Gas regarding the gas connection for the proposal. An electrical connection has been agreed with Scottish Power Electricity Networks, except for details on easements which are still being discussed.

The pipeline aspect of the proposal at the Runcorn outfall is now likely to use a high level bridge at the north end, in order to leave the canal open to shipping.

The applicant is currently in discussion with the relevant bodies on the route the pipeline will follow. The options are for the pipeline to be laid in the canal or to be carried by the Telford Wall. This wall separates the Weaver Navigation and Manchester ship canals. The applicant advised that it will provide more detail to assist the Planning Inspectorate's understanding.

KGSL also advised that they plan to extend their existing network of level points, used to monitor potential ground movements, to new third party land. The layout for these points has been finalised and is to be shared with land owners.

KGSL will update the project description to reflect these changes.

## **Environmental Statement**

The environmental surveys are continuing, with a focus on bats, trees and hedgerows. The assessments will be completed in time so that this information can be included in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

The assessment in relation to the Runcorn brine outfall has only just commenced. If the assessment is completed before the PEIR is made available for review and comments by local authorities, it will be included, otherwise this information will be made available for comment once complete, and this will be mentioned in the PEIR.

The Planning Inspectorate confirmed that this approach was acceptable given the PEIR is a snapshot of the environmental work being undertaken. PINS advised that the applicant should have a contingency in place for anyone who wished to see information not available in time for the PEIR.

KGSL stated that the PEIR is on track for issuing in mid-September. The Planning Inspectorate asked how the publication of the PEIR was tied into community consultation.

KGSL confirmed that the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) would be published a week after the PEIR was issued. This information would be provided to s42 and s47 consultees and there would be at least a 28 day period for comments.

## **Consultation**

The Planning Inspectorate agreed to review the SoCC and provide advice. KGSL stated that the SoCC would be made available to local authorities in early August, in advance of the statutory 28 day period.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that this would be fine, and that there was no need to re-consult with Local Authorities (LAs) following comments received on the SoCC, as long as the LAs had a minimum of 28 days. It is for the applicant to have regard to any comments received from the authority within that consultation period.

KGSL also advised that they had revised their consultation zones, in response to comments received. They explained their reasoning and advised they would welcome any comments the Planning Inspectorate may have following review of the consultation zone plans.

The Planning Inspectorate suggested that a roundtable meeting between itself, the applicant, local authorities and any key statutory bodies, following the statutory consultation period, could be beneficial to discuss any matters that may arise during the consultation period. KGSL confirmed that they would be interested in a roundtable meeting, and the parties agreed to review this following the consultation period.

## **Procedural**

Discussions are ongoing with land owners to acquire land. KGSL are hopeful that this can be done before submission, however, at this time, the applicant are still seeking compulsory acquisition powers as part of their DCO as a provision.

KGSL have re-evaluated the order limits of their proposal. Changes include changes to the redline boundary of the brine field site, and a reduction in the width of land required along the pipeline corridor from 50m each side, down to 5m, which now correlates with INEOS' easement rights.

In addition, there is now included a pumping station which is on the Lostock site shared between INEOS and Tata Chemicals Europe Limited. KGSL have provided maps detailing these changes.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that they would review these changes and provide advice where relevant [<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/north-west/keuper-gas-storage-project/?ipcsection=advice&ipcadvise=7f2cdc0874>]. The Inspectorate also advised that a shapefile for the new redline boundary would be required before submission of the application.

## **Consents Management Plan**

The Consents Service Unit noted that work appears to be progressing on the range of consents listed. KGSL confirmed that no issues have been identified and that work was continuing on the flood risk assessment.

## **Hazardous Substances**

KGSL confirmed that their approach remained as before, but that this was dependant on s17 applications by E.ON and Storengy (land leasees).

## **Any Other Business**

The next teleconference is scheduled for 3 September 2014.