



The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010054

Date: 22 April 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17

Application by QPI Global Ventures Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the South Hook Combined Heat and Power Station

Correspondence from the Health and Safety Executive

I attach a copy of correspondence received from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on 17 April 2014. This suggests that “there is a need for a full risk assessment of the South Hook CHP project in respect of possible loss of containment of natural gas at the power station itself. This could lead to flash fire or an explosion and consequently risks to the surrounding population”.

By means of this letter I am requesting:

- a) **the applicant** (QPI Global Ventures Ltd) to comment on this submission from HSE; in particular to indicate whether they consider that any further risk assessment is necessary and, if so, whether and when they propose to carry out such an assessment.
- b) **the HSE** to clarify whether its submission of 17 April 2014 about the need for risk assessment was only in respect of the variations in the design submitted on 17 February 2014 and 2 March 2014 (as appears to be the case by its reference to the earlier representation of 17 March 2014) or extends to the application as originally submitted on 31 May 2013 (as could be inferred from the final paragraph of the 17 April 2014 submission).

Please will the applicant, HSE and any other interested parties provide responses to this letter by 11.59pm on 23 April 2014, after which the examination of the application will close in accordance with the published timetable. I will not take into account any representations received after this deadline but they may be forwarded to the Secretary of State for consideration alongside my report.

Please note that this letter is seeking a response from the applicant and the HSE and is copied to interested parties for information.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Green

**Jonathan Green
Examining Inspector**

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

Dear Planning Inspectorate

With reference to HSE's earlier representation dated 17/03/14:

'The applicant will need to have considered the proposed change to building volume/configuration as part of any risk assessment, for example gas dispersion modelling or size of any credible gas explosion. HSE could not find a statement to that effect in the documentation. Provided the applicant has considered this, HSE would have no further comment on this application.'

The RPS reply dated 1/4/14 to Tracey Williams (Planning Inspectorate) states:

'We consider that any potential risk of the nature identified by HSE would be from the adjacent COMAH facility, the LNG Terminal, to the east. HSE has been fully consulted on the Application and the risk posed by the adjacent COMAH facility, which HSE regulates. '

Whereas LNG/NG release at the terminal has been discussed at length at a meeting organised by HSE last September, we remain concerned that there needs to be an assessment of loss of containment of natural gas at the power station itself. This could lead to flash fire or an explosion and consequently risks to the surrounding population.

Yours sincerely

Dave Adams
Major Hazards Policy
Health and Safety Executive