



| Overview - Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State | |
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| Project name: | Wrexham Energy Centre |
| Address/Location: | |
| Planning Inspectorate Ref: | EN010055 |
| Date(s) screening undertaken: | First screening – 15 January 2013 following the applicant’s request for a scoping opinion Second screening – 24 July 2014 following submission of a second request for a scoping opinion Third screening – 1 August 2016 following submission of the DCO application |
| EEA States identified for notification: | First screening: None identified Second screening: None identified Third screening: None identified |

| FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE | |
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| Document(s) used for transboundary Screening: | Wrexham Power Limited Scoping Report ('the Scoping Report') |
| Date | 15/1/13 |
| Screening Criteria: | Secretary of State Comments: |
| Characteristics of the Development | <p>The Wrexham Energy Centre comprises a new Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power station which will have a generation capacity of up to 1,200 MW. The proposed development includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection from the national gas transmission network; • Connection to the electricity grid; • Two turbine houses; • Cooling system; • Electricity substation; • Station control room; • Offices • Stores; and • Water treatment plan. |
| Geographical area | The extent of area of likely impact under the jurisdiction of another EEA State has not been provided within the Scoping Report. |
| Location of Development (including existing use) | <p>The proposed CCGT site is located at Wrexham Industrial Estate, approximately 3.5km east of Wrexham.</p> <p>The proposed site comprises a mix of brownfield and greenfield land. Part of the site would be the former Owens Corning Fibreglass factory and associated car park containing depositions of demolition spoil and landscaped ponds set amongst areas of</p> |

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| | <p>scrub. The northern part of the site is primarily farmland. A distribution centre and logistics warehouse is located to the south of the site and to the west is a food processing complex.</p> <p>The electricity connection for the proposed development is anticipated to occur at the Legacy Substation at Talwrn, approximately 11km west of Wrexham. Two corridor options are currently being considered. Land use in these corridors is generally agricultural with areas of mature hedgerow and woodland. Numerous small ponds and other potential ecological habitats are present as well as Scheduled monuments and listed buildings.</p> <p>The nearest National Transmission System (NTS) connection point for gas is near Talwrn, 3km south of the site. Please note this is a different Talwrn from the one referred to above. As with the electricity connection the two route corridors are being currently being considered. As with the electricity connection routes land use in these corridors is agricultural with areas of mature hedgerow and woodland.</p> <p>The Scoping Report also refers to 3 potential carbon capture pipelines that would be used to transport carbon dioxide to deep geological storage facilities offshore. The provisional routes for the pipelines would pass in a north westerly direction towards the Irish Sea. No further information is provided.</p> <p>The Scoping Report identifies Midland Meres and Mosses Ramsar site, located 4.5km north west of the site and River Dee and Bala Lake SAC which is located 2.2km east of the site.</p> |
| Cumulative impacts | <p>The Scoping Report refers to cumulative impacts and refers to them being considered within the topic based chapters of the ES, although it is not clear how these will be addressed.</p> |
| Carrier | <p>Transmission by air and water.</p> <p>Disturbance to land.</p> |
| Environmental Importance | <p>The Scoping Report provides some information regarding the environment of the site and surrounding area, however the various issues will be investigated further with results being used to inform the ES.</p> <p>The Scoping Report, at paragraph 6.261 states that consideration will be given, in the Environmental Statement (ES), to birds that use the River Dee Special Protection Area/Site of Special Scientific Interest. This appears to be an error as the River Dee is not an SPA but may refer instead to the Dee Estuary SPA. From the EIA Scoping plan at Appendix 2 of the Scoping Report, it appears that there is a Special Area of Conservation/SSSI located approximately 0.5km from the electricity route corridor.</p> |

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| Extent | Not identified in the Scoping Report. On the basis of the design measures built into the development and the implementation of mitigation measures and best practice (in line with regulatory body requirements), no significant effects have been identified which could impact on another EEA Member States. |
| Magnitude | No impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State. |
| Probability | No impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State. |
| Duration | No impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State. |
| Frequency | No impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State. |
| Reversibility | No impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State. |

Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State

Under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations) and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant, the Secretary of State is of the view that the proposed development **is not likely** to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the Secretary of State has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 12: Transboundary Impacts Consultation); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.

Action:

No further action required at this stage

Date: 15/1/13

Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.

SECOND TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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| Document used for transboundary Screening: | Wrexham Energy Centre Scoping Report March 2014 |
| Date | Re-screened on 22 August 2014 following receipt of a revised Scoping Report |

Transboundary re-screening undertaken by the Secretary of State

Following **submission of a second request for a Scoping Opinion**, the Secretary of State has reconsidered the transboundary screening decision undertaken on 15 January 2013.

The Secretary of State has identified the following matters that differ from those considered at the time of the previous transboundary screening decision:

- change in the description of the proposed development,

Change in the description of the proposed development

The generating capacity of the proposed power station has been reduced to 299 MW (although the technology to be used has not changed). The electrical connection will no longer form part of the Development Consent Order but will be consented through other means. The cumulative impact of the electrical connection will be considered in the project's environmental impact assessment. Details of the connection are still to be finalised but it is now unlikely to require a new 400 kV line, as was suggested in the first Scoping Report. The gas pipeline has now been refined; the revised Scoping Report suggests a route running south from the proposed power station site to an existing natural gas plant.

Under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations) and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant there is not a change to the previous conclusion, and the Secretary of State remains of the view that the proposed development **is not likely** to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the Secretary of State has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 12: Transboundary Impacts Consultation); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.

Action:

No further action required at this stage

Date: 22 August 2014

Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process

THIRD TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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| Document used for transboundary Screening: | Wrexham Energy Centre Development Consent Order Application Documents including the Environmental Statement (Volumes 1 – 4) [APP-047 – APP-152], Habitats Regulations Assessment Report [APP-046] and Flood Consequence Assessment [APP-043]. |
| Date | Re-screened on 1 August 2016 following receipt of the DCO application documents |

Transboundary re-screening undertaken by the Secretary of State

Following the applicant's **submission of their DCO application**, the Secretary of State has reconsidered the transboundary screening decision undertaken on 22 August 2014.

The Secretary of State has identified the following matters that differ from those considered at the time of the previous transboundary screening decision:

- Changes in the description of the proposed development (characteristics of the development), including (but not limited to):
 - The cooling system for the steam exhaust from the proposed development has been defined as being an air cooled system, whereas previously a hybrid cooling system was also being considered.
 - The Power Station Complex will consist of up to two gas turbines and up to two heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), one steam turbine, and a generator for each turbine, whereas previously the 'maximum configuration' of the scheme was described as comprising 3 gas turbines.
- Refinement of the DCO order limits (location of the development):
 - Figure 4.1 of the ES shows the DCO order limits including the boundary for the gas connection route from the main site area to the Maelor Gasworks. The gas connection route has been refined within the larger route corridor previously identified by the applicant in the Scoping Report.

Conclusions

Under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations) and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant there is not a change to the previous conclusion, and the Secretary of State remains of the view that the proposed development **is not likely** to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the Secretary of State has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note twelve: Transboundary Impacts; and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.

Action:

No further action required at this stage

Date: 5 October 2016

Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process

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1. The Secretary of State's screening of transboundary issues is based on the relevant considerations specified in Annex 4 to Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 12 available on the Planning Inspectorate's website at <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>