



Project name:	Seabank 3 CCGT
Address/Location:	Located immediately adjacent to the existing Seabank 1&2 CCGT Power Station in an area known as Crooks Marsh, off the A403 Severn Road and approximately 5km north of Avonmouth.
Planning Inspectorate Ref:	EN010058
Transboundary consultation process:	Stage 1
Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:	Seabank 3 EIA Scoping Report Dated 12 February 2013 Ref: 47064101
Date	5 June 2013

Screening Criteria	Secretary of State Comments
Characteristics of the Development	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of a new Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power station to provide up to 1,400 megawatts (MW) electrical generation capacity. The main components of the proposed development have been identified within the Scoping Report as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two main structures with footprints of 80m by 80m and a maximum height of 40m with approximately three exhaust stacks of up to 80m; ▪ Ancillary structures to accommodate cooling towers, workshops and offices; ▪ Two main gas turbines and associated turbines; ▪ Diversion of existing natural gas supply pipelines on site to accommodate the new plant and a connection taken from it; ▪ New supply/return water pipeline installed between the site and the water treatment works; likely to follow the route of the existing pipeline; ▪ Two temporary vehicular access points during construction; and ▪ Three permanent vehicular access points provided for the operational period.
Geographical area	The extent of the area of any likely impact under the jurisdiction of other EEA States has not been provided within the Scoping Report.
Location of Development (including existing use)	<p>The site of the proposed development would comprise an area of approximately 20 ha immediately adjacent to the existing Seabank 1 & 2 CCGT power station.</p> <p>Existing infrastructure on the Site includes overhead electrical lines and underground gas/water pipelines. The Site is relatively flat and comprises open grassland with woody vegetation in places. Interconnecting rhines and drainage ditches both on the site and the surrounding area are identified as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) and drain into the Severn Estuary.</p> <p>The surrounding area is predominantly in industrial use with the closest residential community being Severn Beach, located approximately 1.5km north of the Site. Agricultural use is abundant in the area with several farms being located between</p>

	1.1km and 2km of the Site.
Cumulative impacts	Sections 8.24 to 8.32 of the Scoping Report refer to cumulative impacts arising from developments which are either permitted or committed in the vicinity of the site and states that these will be assessed within the ES. Section 8.27 of the Scoping Report contains a list of development to be assessed cumulatively with the proposed development.
Carrier	Potential impact pathways include the transport of pollutants from the site by air, water and land.
Environmental Importance	<p><u>Designated Sites</u></p> <p>The Scoping Report, section 6.36 identifies sixteen statutory designated sites within 10km of the centre of the site comprising eleven national and international (European) sites and five Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).</p> <p>The Severn Estuary, a designated Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Ramsar site, is located approximately 400m to the west of the Site.</p> <p>Rhines and drainage ditches, identified as SNCI, are located both in and around the site and discharge directly into the Severn Estuary.</p> <p>The Site is within/immediately adjacent to an area designated as Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh (A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitat).</p> <p>Five scheduled monuments are within 5km of the Site, with thirteen Grade II listed buildings and one Grade II* listed building within 2km of the Site. A further seventeen Grade II* and three Grade I Listed buildings exist between 2km and 5km from the Site.</p> <p><u>Birds</u></p> <p>A number of protected and notable species, identified within section 6.39 of the Scoping Report, have been recorded within 1.5km of the centre of the Site.</p> <p><u>Ecology</u></p> <p>An inspection of trees on site in 2012 found no evidence of bats however during a dusk survey a number of common pipistrelle bats and a noctule bat were recorded. No bats were recorded during the dawn survey. Further bat species are found within the wider area and are identified in section 6.38 of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>Records within 1.5km of the site identify the following protected and notable species: smooth newt, great crested newt, slow worm and grass snake. Section 6.39 of the scoping report states that adder have been recorded 3km from the site and eels have been recorded in the Red Rhine which runs through the site.</p>

	Several notable invertebrate, moth and butterfly species have been recorded in the area including several species of water beetle.
Extent	The Scoping Report does not describe the extent of potential impacts on another EEA State. However, given the nature and scale of the proposed development it is unlikely that the effects would extend to the environment in another EEA state.
Magnitude	No potential impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Probability	No potential impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Duration	No potential impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Frequency	No potential impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Reversibility	No potential impacts identified which would be likely to affect another EEA 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 Developer, 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 Developer.

Action:

No further action required at this stage.

Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process. The Scoping Report has referred the Applicant to the requirement to identify any transboundary impacts within the Environmental Statement. Further assessment under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations will be undertaken upon receipt of an Environmental Statement.

Note:

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/>