



Meeting Note

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| File reference | ENO10058 |
| Status | Final |
| Author | The Planning Inspectorate |

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| Meeting with | SSE Generation Ltd and URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Ltd |
| Meeting date | 8 October 2012 |
| Attendees (Planning Inspectorate) | Tom Carpen (Principal Case Manager) David Price (EIA Manager) Tracey Williams (Case Manager) Oliver Blower (Case Officer) Karl- Jonas Johansson (Assistant Case Manager) Gareth Watts (Assistant Case Manager) |
| Attendees (non Planning Inspectorate) | Andrew Scott (SSE Project Development Manager) Neil Titley (URS Project Manager) Andrew Wooddisse (URS Planning Manager) Chris Harris (Major Projects Liaison Manager for SSE) |
| Location | The Planning Inspectorate Offices, Temple Quay House, Bristol |

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| Meeting purpose | Introductory Project Meeting |
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| Summary of key points discussed and advice given | <p><i>The Planning Inspectorate openness policy, protocol for meeting notes and exchange of information</i></p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised on its openness policy, and that any advice given will be recorded and placed on the Planning Inspectorate's pages on the Planning Portal website, under s.51 of the Planning Act 2008 ["the 2008 Act"] and also to note that any advice given under s.51 does not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised that the Applicant should seek independent legal advice on which they can rely.</p> <p><i>Project Location</i></p> <p>The developer gave a brief description of the location of the proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The site is adjacent to an existing Seabank Power Station- The proposal will be situated within South Gloucestershire Council; however the existing power station site is within Bristol City Council jurisdiction.- To the West of the site is SITA which is an Energy from Waste plant generating 32MW. This has recently |
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received consent and construction is due to begin next year.

- To the south is the site of the former Terra Nitrogen plant.

Project Details

The developer gave a brief description of the details of the proposal:

- The proposal is for the development of additional generators adjacent to the existing Seabank Power Station which is owned by Seabank Power Ltd of which SSE is a 50% stakeholder. The developer hopes that on completion the existing and new power stations will become integrated.
- Total output of the entire station is anticipated to be 2,500 MW. This will include Seabank 1, 2 and 3.
- The proposal will consist of 2 combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) units capable of producing up to 1400 MW integrating with existing gas and electricity transmission infrastructure.

Site Description

The developer gave a brief description of the site:

- SSE brought the land from Severn Side Developments who were already in the process of developing the site to make it attractive to potential purchasers.
- There will be a new road built on the site which has consent as part of the adjacent development by SITA.
- There are drainage ditches that run through the site on the northern edge.
- The site mainly consists of Greenfield marsh area.

Timeline

The developer explained that they anticipate the application will be submitted in Q4 2013, with the aim to have the station operational by late 2019.

The developer anticipates that the Scoping Report will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in December 2012.

Consultation

The developer requested general advice on consultation from the Planning Inspectorate.

The Planning Inspectorate advised working with local authorities as much as possible during the early stages.

The developer suggested a two stage approach to community consultation. The first stage is anticipated to take place in Q1

2013 and the second later in 2013. The developer informed the Planning Inspectorate that they would like to have the first stage just after the submission of the scoping report.

The developer explained that they would like to have a broad and flexible remit for the proposal.

The Planning Inspectorate directed the developer to '*Advice note 9: Rochdale Envelope*', and advised that the Planning Inspectorate can provide comments on the draft DCO and other draft application documents.

The Planning Inspectorate noted that there is the possibility, regarding the uncertainty surrounding the red line boundary, that Bristol City Council could become a host authority.

Gas and Grid Connection

The developer explained that their intention is to connect to the grid on the existing site and that they are currently in negotiations with National Grid (NG) over the connections required; they explained that NG would be dealing with any reinforcements of the broader network that are required.

The developer stated that they intend to connect to the existing gas connection which supplies Seabank 1 and 2. and that they are currently exploring various possibilities for plant cooling, including air cooled condensers, connection to the existing water supply or connection to the estuary.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that the consultation will need to be clear on the extent of the connections. Advising that it should be made clear how the various sites relate to one another, and exactly what falls within the developer's proposal, specifically with regards to the red line boundary.

The developer explained that they will investigate the possibility of CHP and that they are aware of the need to be carbon capture ready.

The developer further explained that they may need to relocate the last 100m of a pipeline within the site. They also referred to the overhead electrical lines that cross the second half of the carbon capture site and that these may need to be moved if carbon capture is to be developed however this would likely be subject to a future separate consent application.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that in order to manage any risk associated with the connections then they should all be included in the application.

EIA

The developer explained that they had started to prepare their Scoping Report.

- Data gathering is underway.
- Negotiations with Technical bodies such as Natural England underway.
- Surveys and Studies are being undertaken on the site.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that it is helpful if they receive the GIS Shapefile at least 10 days prior to the request for a Scoping Opinion. This is so that they can start to draw up the list of statutory parties to be consulted under Reg 9 of the EIA Regulations 2009.

The developer explained that they would like a degree of flexibility within the Scoping Report. They referred to *Pins Advice Note 9: Rochdale Envelope*. They also referred to the Knottingley Power Project Proposal and how their Scoping Report included a number of options, and that this was the approach that they would also propose using.

The developer enquired as to how best to deal with the red line boundary.

The Planning Inspectorate advised, that the developer should explain within the documents if and why there is uncertainty about the extent of the boundary.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that should the red line boundary change to include Bristol City Council, this will in turn expand the number of consultees. The Planning Inspectorate also advised that there could be a potential need to consult with Welsh Authorities. The developer was advised to refer to *Pins Advice Note 3* EIA consultation and notification for further information. This advice note explains the approach taken to identifying consultation bodies to be notified under regulation 9 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 and consulted on the scope of the Environmental Statement under regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations

The developer explained that they are about to meet both South Gloucestershire Council and Bristol City Council. The developer also acknowledged that within their documentation they will to show the water and power connections to the extent that they are currently known.

The developer explained that the current and future base line may vary due to changes related to other proposals outside of the developer's control.

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| | <p>The developer explained that they will be liaising with the relevant bodies with regard to consents and permits that are required for construction and operation. But that they are likely to apply for the majority of permits after the application has received consent.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised that the developer should liaise with all the relevant bodies prior to the examination, so that those bodies can feed into the development of the application and the examination.</p> <p><i>Habitats Regulations Assessment</i></p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised the developer that in past proposals, Habitat Regulations Assessments have been a very prominent issue and advised that it is best to assess these issues earlier on in the process rather than during the Examination. The Planning Inspectorate referred the developer to <i>Pins Advice Note 11 Working with public bodies in infrastructure planning</i>.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised that the relevant Secretary of State is the competent authority with regard to the Habitats Regulations Assessment, however there is a duty on the Planning Inspectorate to assess the issues.</p> <p><i>Future Meeting Programme</i></p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate and the developer agreed to meet in the future for an update. The developer agreed to contact South Gloucestershire Council and Bristol City Council with regard to holding a tri-party site visit around the time the scoping opinion request was to be submitted.</p> <p>The developer agreed to contact the Planning Inspectorate with regard to attending the next Energy UK planning group meeting.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised that a project page will be set up on it's website to coincide with the launching of the developer's project website.</p> |
| <p>Specific decisions/ follow up required?</p> | <p>The Planning Inspectorate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to correspond with the developer about the date on which it plans to introduce the relevant project page on to the National Infrastructure Directorate website. • Agreed to attend update meetings. <p>The developer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to contact South Gloucestershire Council and |

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| | <p>Bristol City Council and arrange dates for a tri- party site visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to contact the Energy UK planning group regarding a potential meeting with the Planning Inspectorate to share current knowledge and experience. • Agreed to attend update meetings. |
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