

# Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

## The Port Talbot Steelworks (Power Generation Enhancement) Order

### 9.02 Gas Connection Statement

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<b>Regulation</b>	5(2)(p) and 6(1)(a)	
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tata Steel UK Limited (**Tata**) proposes to construct an electricity generating station on land at the Port Talbot steelworks. The generating station will generate up to 130MWe of electricity, most of which will be utilised by the onsite operations at the steelworks. Occasionally, however, it may necessary to export excess electricity to the local electricity distribution network for short periods of time.
- 1.2 The generating station will be fuelled predominantly by gases arising from the steel-making process. There is an existing network of pipes at the steelworks site which carries gases from the blast furnaces, basic oxygen steel making plant and coke ovens to the existing power generating plant and to other production processes, with any excess being flared through flare stacks. There is also a supply of natural gas to the steelworks site, which is used as a back-up fuel by the existing onsite power generating plant and also to fuel some of the production processes. The proposed development includes extensions to this existing pipe work to connect the new generating station to these fuel sources. No further fuel gas pipeline infrastructure is necessary in connection with the proposed development.
- 1.3 The proposed development constitutes a 'nationally significant infrastructure project' (**NSIP**) by virtue of sections 14(1)(a) and 15 of the Planning Act 2008. An application for development consent has therefore been made to the Secretary of State under section 37 of that Act.
- 1.4 This Gas Pipeline Connection Statement accompanies the application and has been prepared to comply with regulation 6(1)(a)(ii) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, which requires the Applicant for a gas-fuelled generating station to provide a statement of who will be responsible for designing and building the gas pipeline connection to the generating station.

## 2. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 2.1 The proposed development includes:
  - a Process gas-fired generating station, consisting of up to two boilers and up to two steam turbines with a combined electrical output of up to 130 MWe (the **Generating Station**);
  - extensions to the existing onsite pipe work to connect the Generating Station to fuel gases (the **Gas Connection**); and
  - connection of 66kV electrical cables, approximately 2.8km in length, to an existing substation at the south east of the steelworks site, to export electricity from the Generating Station.

2.2 The proposed development is more fully described in chapter 3 of the Environmental Statement submitted with this application (Document number 6.02).

### 3. THE GAS CONNECTION

#### 3.1 Process Gases Connection

3.2 The existing power generation assets are supplied with three types of process gas: Blast Furnace Gas (BFG), Basic Oxygen Steel Making Gas, and Coke Oven Gas using a network of above ground pipelines which are up to 3.0 metres in diameter. The gases are all supplied at a low pressure of up to a maximum 200mbarg. For the proposed development these pipelines will be extended by up to 450m to connect to the new boiler(s).

3.3 The pipeline design will adhere to relevant British and European Engineering Standards. The installation will include trestle supports and concrete foundations to support the above ground pipe work.

#### 3.4 Natural Gas Connection

3.5 Eni Trading and Shipping Plc supplies the natural gas to the Port Talbot Site through a 12inch pipeline from the National Grid network. The natural gas pipeline enters the Port Talbot Steelworks site at Grid Reference 278310 E 186675 N. At this point, the gas supply pressure is reduced to approximately 6 Barg pressure and is distributed to the site through a network of pipelines that are owned by Tata Steel. This network of pipelines supplies various steel production plants onsite and the existing power generating plant. For the proposed development, this Tata-owned natural gas supply pipeline to the existing power generating plant will be extended to provide a back up fuel.

### 4. ACQUISITION OF RIGHTS

4.1 The vast majority of the Gas Connection will be on land that is already within Tata's ownership. However, the extension of the process-gas pipe work between the blast furnace and the Generating Station will cross over the internal railway line (currently disused), which is owned by Network Rail Infrastructure Limited.

4.2 It will therefore be necessary for Tata to obtain the necessary rights over this land either by agreement or through the exercise of the power of compulsory acquisition, which is included in the proposed development consent order (**DCO**) (Document number 3.01).

4.3 The proposed DCO contains a power for Tata to compulsorily acquire the rights necessary to construct, use and maintain the Gas Connections. These rights are fully described in the Book of Reference (Document number 4.03).

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#### 4.4 **Responsibilities for Designing and Building the Gas Connection**

4.5 Tata will be responsible for designing and building all elements of the Gas Connections.

### 5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 This statement outlines the general proposal for connecting the Generating Station to the process gas and Natural gas pipelines.

5.2 The principles and location of the Gas Connection are explained in this document. The majority of the route of the Gas Connection is within Tata's ownership and Tata will be seeking the necessary rights over the parcel of railway land that is crossed by the Connection.

5.3 Tata will be responsible for designing and building all elements of the Gas Connection. The detailed proposals for installing the Gas Connection will be developed once the contractor has been selected and during the detailed design phase of the proposed development.