



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010062
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Steven Parker
<b>Date</b>	12 November 2013
<b>Meeting with</b>	Tata Steel UK Ltd
<b>Venue</b>	Temple Quay House, Bristol
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Tom Carpen – Infrastructure Planning Lead Helen Lancaster - Senior EIA Advisor Steven Parker – Assistant Case Officer  <b>Applicant</b> Guy Simms - Tata Steel UK Ltd Muhammad Jhandeer– Tata Steel UK Ltd Ben Lewis – GVA Catherine MacKay – AECOM Rob Davies - AECOM Richard Griffiths - Pinsent Masons Duncan O'Connor - Pinsent Masons Charles St George - PPS Clare Jones - PPS
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	For the applicant to update the Planning Inspectorate on its project progress.
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

#### Introduction

The Planning Inspectorate made the Applicant aware of changes to its project team.

#### Scoping Opinion

The applicant sought some clarification on the scoping opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 6 November 2013 and that they were in pre-application discussions with statutory bodies.

The response of Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to the Scoping Report indicated that an Assessment of the Significance of Impacts of Development on Historic

Landscape (ASIDOHL) should be undertaken. The Applicant stated that CADW and the local archaeological trust have said that this is unnecessary. The Planning Inspectorate advised that further discussions with NRW should be undertaken.

The Applicant said that there is no further flood risk information available at the time of the scoping report, due to the NRW model being out of date. The Applicant is working with NRW to create new hydrological maps and obtain flood risk data.

The Applicant has been consulting with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council regarding expected operational traffic emissions. It is expected that there will be no change in operational traffic, due to no additional employment being created.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that effects on air quality during both construction and decommissioning should be fully explained in the environment statement.

The Applicant noted that effects on bats had not been scoped out of the ES in the Secretary of State's Scoping Opinion. They stated that evidence would be provided in the Environmental Statement to demonstrate the unsuitability of the site for bats.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that the Applicant should continue to consult with NRW, following comments regarding the need to have contingency measures in the ES, should bats be found.

## **Cooling System**

The applicant is in discussion with NRW on water and air based cooling systems.

Ideally, the applicant would like a letter of comfort from NRW, for an environmental permit relating to cooling systems before submission of the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

The appellant asked the Planning Inspectorate if it can submit the application with two cooling system options in case they haven't been able to reach a conclusion before submission.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that it is within the broader use of the Rochdale envelope principles and that, without prejudice to any future examination, it may become an examination issue, if proposed.

The Applicant should ensure that all potential impacts have been addressed to the environmental statement and that the draft requirements covered the issue of how a preferred option would be chosen and implemented. The Applicant may also wish to seek the views of other consultees, such as local authorities.

## **Consultation**

The applicant has developed a draft statement of community consultation, including a timetable.

There are consultation events planned, an article in a newsletter which reaches circa 20,000 people and an internal TATA staff publication which gives details of the proposed development.

A dedicated website, email address and phone line are to be launched in mid November.

The Planning Inspectorate will amend the planning portal giving a direct link to this website.

The applicant has invited key stakeholders from both the local and wider communities to workshops events. These include community representatives such as councilors and business groups to MP's.

These events would be held in mid to late January 2014.

The Planning Inspectorate advised the applicant that at submission, the Planning Inspectorate may request copies of original representations. It would be good practice to get these documents in order in anticipation of a request.

The Planning Inspectorate asked whether a second round of consultation would be needed.

The Applicant stated that they believed that their planned first round consultation would be robust enough to not require a second round of consultation.

They stated that, if required, that they would be happy to consult further with the community, and are aware that changes to the scheme may necessitate further consultation.

The Applicant plans to publish their S.48 notice in December 2013.

The S.42 consultation period is expected to be between 9 January – 17 February 2014

The Planning Inspectorate has offered to review the draft S.48 notice.

The Planning Inspectorate suggested a meeting after the end of the S.42 consultation period may be useful to cover procedural issues, identify key issues and to consider the future examination process. This meeting would likely be between the applicant, The Planning Inspectorate, NRW and local authorities, and could also incorporate a site visit.

## **Draft Documents**

The applicant intends to submit draft documents, such as the draft DCO and land plans, to the Planning Inspectorate for review in January.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that it intends to complete the review within six weeks and that it would be advisable for them to see the draft consultation report.

The Planning Inspectorate asked whether the applicant intended to provide Habitats Regulations Matrices as requested in Advice Note 10. The Applicant confirmed that they would and that these would be appended to the Environmental Statement.

The applicant stated that the connections to the electricity grid and to natural gas would be connected to internal networks, not connected to the national grid / NTS networks.

The 66KV electrical connection would be run to an existing on site substation. Both the electrical connection and gas pipeline would be completely within the red boundary.

The applicant owns all of the land for these connections, except for a section containing a rail line, which is owned by Network Rail.

The applicant are negotiating with Network Rail over the rights to use land, both above and below ground, for the electricity and gas connection route. They are also seeking to compulsorily acquire this land in case the negotiations are unsuccessful, Network Rail is aware of this

The applicant confirmed that it would be providing a statement of reasons.

The Planning Inspectorate asked in any of the site constituted Crown land?

The applicant advised that the entire proposed site was in their ownership, save the Network Rail corridor.

### **Decommissioning**

The applicant clarified what would happen to the existing power generation infrastructure should the DCO be granted for the application. The existing plant would continue to operate until the new facility had undergone testing. Once the new equipment was operational, the four turbo alternators currently in use would be decommissioned by cutting off their supply of fuel.

The equipment would not be removed from the site as they are integrated into buildings which would still be operational.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that the application to any DCO requirement should be clear on this aspect.

### **Timescales Any Other Business**

S.48 Notification – December 2013

S.42 Consultation Period – 09/01/2014 – 17/02/2014

Roundtable Meeting & Site Visit - Feb / March 2014

The Applicant intends to submit the application for development consent in April/May 2014