



Overview - Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State	
Project name:	Abergelli Power Project
Address/Location:	Agricultural land north of Swansea, approximately 1 km southeast of Felindre, 760m west of Llwyncelyn and 1.4km north of Llangyfelach. Grid Reference of site centre: 265284, 201431.
Planning Inspectorate Ref:	EN010069
Date(s) screening undertaken:	First screening – 18/07/2014 following the Applicant’s request for a scoping opinion Second Screening – 27/09/18 following the Applicant’s submission of an Environmental Statement and Habitats Regulations No Significant Effects Report
EEA States identified for notification:	First screening: None identified Second Screening: None Identified

FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE	
Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:	Abergelli Power Project, Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report ('the Scoping Report')
Date	18/07/2014
Screening Criteria:	Secretary of State Comments:
Characteristics of the Development	<p>The proposed development would comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new power generation plant in the form of a Simple Cycle Gas Turbine (SCGT) gas fired peaking power generating station fuelled by natural gas and capable of providing and electrical capacity of up to 299 MW comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The generating equipment including the gas turbine generators and balance of plant • A new purpose built access road either from the Rhyd-y-pandy Road to the north (Access Road – Option 1) or the B4489 to the west (Access Road – Option 2) • A temporary construction compound (the Laydown Area) • A new gas connection to bring natural gas to the generating equipment from either the National Transmission System (NTS) or the Local Transmission System (LTS), which is located within the gas opportunity area; • A new electrical connection to export power from the generating equipment to the National Grid Electricity Transmission System (NETS) for distribution to homes and businesses which is located within the gas connection opportunity area; • As a peaking plant (required to operate when there is a surge in demand) the generating equipment would operate for up to 1500 hours per year; • Waste gases and heat would be released to the

	<p>atmosphere via between 1 and 5 stacks; the stacks will contain equipment to reduce any emissions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and commissioning of the project would take approximately 22 months; • The power generation plant would be designed to have an operational life of 25 years after which time it would either be decommissioned or repowered.
Geographical area	The applicant has not indicated within their Scoping Report whether any impacts are likely to extend beyond the jurisdiction of the UK.
Location of Development (including existing use)	<p>The site is located within the City and County of Swansea. The agricultural land classification for the land within and surrounding the proposed site is grade 4 (poor quality agricultural land) and is dominated by improved grassland fields used for grazing sheep and horses. In addition within the proposed site, is a disused coal mine, a landfill as well as small areas of marshy grassland and woodland copses interspersing the improved grassland to the north and east.</p> <p>The site lies approximate 8 km from Wales West coast and the Bristol Channel.</p>
Cumulative impacts	<p>The Scoping Report identifies the following developments for inclusion within the cumulative assessment to be undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Application 2013/0795 – Installation of four 5 kW wind turbines 120.7 m to tip and associated infrastructure at Myle Coch Mawr; • Planning Application 2013/0135 – Installation of ground mounted array of solar panels, inverter substations and 2.4 m high fencing on land at Abergelli Farm. This development would be located within the gas connection opportunity area on the proposed site; • Planning Application 2013/1639 (Rhyd-y-pandy Solar Park) – Construction of 7 MW solar park consisting of installation of up to 28,250 photovoltaic panels and up to six inverter/transformer cabins, a single control building and provision of security fencing; • Proposed development within the Swansea Vale Development Area and other developments, should information become publically available in time to allow inclusion. <p>Section 4.3 of the Scoping Report deals with the cumulative assessment.</p>
Carrier	Potential pollution via air, land and water.
Environmental Importance	The three designated European sites that lie within 10 km of the proposed site are Burry Inlet Ramsar Site and SPA, Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC and Crymlyn Bog Ramsar Site and SAC. Two SSSI's and one LNR lie within 5km of the proposed site, there are 23 SINC's within 2 km of the proposed site.

	<p>The nearest AONB is the Gower which is remote from proposed site and is visually separated by intervening topography.</p> <p>Cultural Heritage and Archaeology are dealt with within section 5.10 of the Scoping Report. Within 5 km of the site there are 17 Scheduled Monuments, one Grade I listed building, 54 Grade II listed buildings, 3 Grade II Historic Parks and Gardens, two conservation areas and various undesignated cultural heritage assets including buildings, earthworks, areas of ancient woodland, sites of structures known only from documentary sources, sub-surface archaeological remains, sites recorded only as cropmarks and isolated findspots.</p>
Extent	Not identified in the applicants 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 State.
Magnitude	No impacts have been identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Probability	No impacts have been identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Duration	No impacts have been identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Frequency	No impacts have been identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
Reversibility	No impacts have been identified which would be likely to affect another EEA State.
<p><u>Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>No further action required at this stage</p> <p>Date 18/07/2014</p> <p>Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.</p>	

SECOND TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING

Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:	Aecom Environmental Statement (Application Document 6.1) and Aecom No Significant Effects Report (NSER) (Application Document 5.5) both c/o Abergelli Power Ltd (dated May 2018).
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Date screening undertaken:	Re-screened on 7 th November 2018 and on receipt of the above mentioned documentation.
<p data-bbox="97 271 1500 324">Transboundary re-screening undertaken by the Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS</p> <p data-bbox="97 324 1500 443">Following submission of the DCO application which included the Environmental Statement and the Applicant's NSER arising during examination, the Inspectorate has reconsidered the transboundary screening decision made in July 2014.</p> <p data-bbox="97 443 1500 638">The Inspectorate notes that changes have been made to the Proposed Development the subject of the DCO application since the previous transboundary screening decision was made on 18th July 2014. However, the Inspectorate considers that the changes will not result in significant effects on the environment in another EEA State, and therefore the conclusion remains unchanged from that in the previous transboundary screening decision.</p> <p data-bbox="97 638 1500 689">The changes noted in the DCO application are summarised below:</p> <ul data-bbox="159 689 1500 1176" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="159 689 1500 817">• The SCGT Power Generation Plant (c.2.65ha) is to be made up of a single Gas Turbine Generator and exhaust stack, as opposed to the potential 5 listed in the original application. <li data-bbox="159 817 1500 869">• The maximum height of the exhaust stack has been increased by 5m, to 45m. <li data-bbox="159 869 1500 952">• The Power Generation Plant has been relocated and is to be sited to the north of the existing Welsh Water Main. <li data-bbox="159 952 1500 1003">• An access route from the B4489 to the west of the site has been selected. <li data-bbox="159 1003 1500 1086">• An option has been selected (Option B) for a new section of access road (in addition to the route presented in the 2018 PEIR report). <li data-bbox="159 1086 1500 1176">• The electrical connection now runs parallel with the road, as opposed to running under it. <p data-bbox="97 1176 1500 1473">The transboundary screening of the Proposed Development has been considered taking into account the transitional provisions in Regulation 37 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 2017 EIA Regulations). The Applicant requested the SoS to adopt a scoping opinion in respect of the development to which the screening relates prior to 16 May 2017 (the date of the commencement of the 2017 EIA Regulations). The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (the 2009 EIA Regulations) are therefore considered to be the applicable EIA Regulations.</p> <p data-bbox="97 1473 1500 1635">Under Regulation 24 of the 2009 EIA Regulations and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant there is no change to the previous conclusion, and the Inspectorate remains of the view that the Proposed Development is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State</p> <p data-bbox="97 1635 1500 1758">In reaching this view the Inspectorate has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in its Advice Note twelve: Transboundary Impacts); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.</p> <p data-bbox="97 1758 1500 1814"><u>Action:</u></p> <p data-bbox="97 1814 1500 1870">No further action required at this stage.</p> <p data-bbox="97 1870 1500 1948">No new EEA States have been identified as being likely to have significant effects on their environment.</p> <p data-bbox="97 1948 1500 2004">Date: 7th November 2018</p> <p data-bbox="97 2004 1500 2096">Note: The SoS' duty under Regulation 24 of the 2009 EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.</p>	

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/>