Meeting note

File reference EN010071
Status Final

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Date 12 November 2014

Meeting with North London Waste Authority (NLWA)

Venue Teleconference

Attendees The Planning Inspectorate (The Inspectorate)

Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead)

Will Spencer (EIA Advisor) Emma Cottam (EIA Advisor)

Emma Fitzpatrick (Assistant Case Officer) Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case Officer)

Applicant

Ursula Taylor (NLWA) Euston Ling (NLWA)

Anita Kasseean (Stephenson Harwood)

Nicola White (Arup)

Meeting objectives

Update on the North London Heat and Power Project (NLHPP)

objectives

Circulation All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

1. Welcome and introductions

The Inspectorate advised attendees about their openness policy, that any advice given will be recorded and placed on the National Infrastructure pages of the Planning Portal website, under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

2. Approach to consultation

The Applicant advised the Inspectorate that the London Borough of Enfield (Enfield) had no major comments on the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). In addition to Enfield the Applicant informally consulted both the London Boroughs of Haringey and Waltham Forest.

The consultation would commence on 28 November 2014 and end on 27 January 2015. Prior to this there would be an information campaign to alert people affected by the project to the consultation.

The Applicant also informed the Inspectorate that a section 46 notice would be submitted to the Inspectorate, prior to the commencement of s42 consultation.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to disclose in detail how it consulted with hard to reach groups in the consultation report; and to be prepared to handle late responses to the consultation.

3. Design update

The Applicant stated that the plant would be able to treat 700,000 tonnes of waste per annum and that, in terms of performance parameters, the gross electrical output would be around 70 MW. The facility would have the capacity to provide around 30 MW of thermal energy.

The Applicant disclosed that there are two options available for treating NOx within the flue gas (non-catalytic and catalytic treatment of nitrogen oxides (NO_x). There are a also a number of treatment options for treating other pollutants within the flue gas (dry, semi-dry or wet flue gas treatment). The preferred options will be finalised prior to submission of the application.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that there are currently two cooling systems being investigated (air cooling and water cooling) and that the water cooling system would allow for more electricity to be generated, but would produce a vapour plume. In contrast, an air cooled system would not produce any vapour plume but would result less electricity. The choice of cooling system will be a subject for consultation.

The Applicant confirmed that there is a waste water licence for the current facility in place and that it was still considering the best way to handle waste water.

The Applicant explained that it is anticipated that all the necessary permissions needed for the new facility would be included in the draft Development Consent Order (DCO), including demolition of the old facility (see also advice regarding Consents Service unit below).

The Applicant confirmed that they are undertaking discussions with the relevant owners to secure necessary access routes, principally to the east and north of the site and to potential laydown areas. These access routes and laydown areas will be included in the works schedule of the DCO.

The Applicant advised that in addition to the ERF there would be a Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) encompassing a household waste recycling facility, a bulk waste facility, fuel preparation plant and storage areas. The Inspectorate asked the applicant whether the applicant had all the available technology within the constraints of the site as part of the proposal, to be consistent with relevant planning policies on waste. The applicant advised that it had fully considered waste planning policies and considered the proposed approach consistent with those.

4. Environmental Impact Assessment - Scoping

The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that the Scoping Opinion is being prepared and will be issued within the statutory 42 day period, which ends on 23 November 2014.

5. AOB

The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that an updated version of Advice Note 15 (Drafting Development Consent Orders) has been issued.

The Inspectorate recommended that the Applicant contacts the Consents Service Unit (CSU) to discuss what consents and permits the project requires. A list of non-DCO consents was also requested by the Inspectorate.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

The Inspectorate will contact the National Archive to arrange NLHPP's access to the statutory instruments template.