

The Eggborough CCGT Project

Document Ref: 7.12
PINS Ref: EN010081

The Eggborough CCGT (Generating Station) Order

Land at and in the vicinity of the Eggborough Power Station site,
near Selby, North Yorkshire, DN14 0BS

Statement of Common Ground with Sport England

The Planning Act 2008

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

Regulation 5(2)(q)



Applicant: Eggborough Power Limited

Date: May 2017

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Document Ref	7.12		
Revision	1.0		
Author	Dalton Warner Davis LLP (DWD)		
Signed	Geoff Bullock (GB)	Date	22.05.17
Approved By	GB		
Signed	GB	Date	22.05.17
Document Owner	DWD		

GLOSSARY

Abbreviation	Description
AGI	Above Ground Installation
CCGT	combined cycle gas turbine
DCO	Development Consent Order
EP UK	EP UK Investments Ltd
EPH	Energetický A Prumyslový Holding
EPL	Eggborough Power Limited
kV	kilovolt
m	metres
MW	megawatts
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NTS	National Transmission System
NYCC	North Yorkshire County Council
PEI	Preliminary Environmental Information
SDC	Selby District Council
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State
the Order	Eggborough CCGT (Generating Station) Order
the PA 2008	The Planning Act 2008
the Site	The Proposed Development Site

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Overview

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared on behalf of Eggborough Power Limited ('EPL' or the 'Applicant'). It forms part of the application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (a 'DCO'), that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, under section 37 of 'The Planning Act 2008' (the 'PA 2008').
- 1.2 EPL is seeking development consent for the construction, operation and maintenance of a new gas-fired electricity generating station with a gross output capacity of up to 2,500 megawatts ('MW'), including electrical and water connections, a new gas supply pipeline and other associated development (the 'Project' or 'Proposed Development') on land at and in the vicinity of the existing Eggborough coal-fired power station, near Selby, North Yorkshire.
- 1.3 A DCO is required for the Proposed Development as it falls within the definition and thresholds for a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (a 'NSIP') under sections 14 and 15(2) of the PA 2008.
- 1.4 The DCO, if made by the SoS, would be known as the 'Eggborough CCGT (Generating Station) Order' (the 'Order').

EPL

- 1.5 EPL owns and operates the existing Eggborough coal-fired power station (the 'existing coal-fired power station'), near Selby, including a significant proportion of the land required for the Proposed Development.
- 1.6 EPL was acquired by EP UK Investments Ltd (EP UK) in late 2014; a subsidiary of Energetický A Průmyslový Holding ('EPH'). EPH owns and operates energy generation assets in the Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Poland and the United Kingdom.

The Proposed Development Site

- 1.7 The Proposed Development Site (the 'Site' or the 'Order limits') is located at and in the vicinity of the existing coal-fired power station approximately 8 kilometres south of Selby.
- 1.8 The existing coal-fired power station is bound to the north by Wand Lane, with the River Aire located approximately 650 metres ('m') further to the north and the A19 Selby Road immediately to the west. Eggborough Village is located approximately 750 m to the south-west.
- 1.9 The entire Site lies within the administrative boundaries of Selby District Council ('SDC') and North Yorkshire County Council ('NYCC').
- 1.10 The existing coal-fired power station was officially opened in 1970 and comprises four coal-fired boilers units, which together are capable of generating up to 2,000 MW of electricity. The existing coal-fired power station also includes a turbine hall and boiler house, an emissions stack (chimney) of approximately 198 m in height, eight concrete cooling towers of approximately 115 m in height, an administration and control block, a coal stockyard and a dedicated rail line for the

delivery of coal, in addition to ancillary buildings, structures and infrastructure and utility connections.

- 1.11 The Site itself extends to approximately 102 hectares and comprises land within the operational area of the existing coal-fired power station for the new gas-fired generating station and electrical and groundwater supply connections; corridors of land to the north of the existing coal-fired power station for the cooling water connections and gas supply pipeline; an area of land to the south-east of the main coal stockyard for surface water discharge connections; and corridors of land to the west and south of the operational area of the existing coal-fired power station for ground and towns water supply connections.
- 1.12 The land required for the generating station and electrical and groundwater connections is owned by EPL, as well as the majority of the land for the cooling and towns water and surface water discharge connections. The majority of the land required for the gas supply pipeline is not owned by EPL.
- 1.13 The area surrounding the Site is predominantly flat and for the most part comprises agricultural land interspersed with small settlements and farmsteads. The area is however crossed by transport infrastructure, notably the A19 and railway lines, including the East Coast Mainline, in addition to overhead electricity lines associated with the existing coal-fired power station and other power stations within the wider area.
- 1.14 A more detailed description of the Site is provided at Chapter 3 'Description of the Site' of the Environmental Statement ('ES') Volume I (Application Document Ref. 6.2).

The Proposed Development

- 1.15 The main components of the Proposed Development are summarised below:
- The **'Proposed Power Plant'** (Work No. 1) - an electricity generating station with a gross output capacity of up to 2,500 MW located on the main coal stockyard area of the existing coal-fired power station, comprising:
 - Work No. 1A - a combined cycle gas turbine ('CCGT') plant, comprising up to three CCGT units, including turbine hall and heat recovery steam generator buildings, emissions stacks and administration/control buildings;
 - Work No. 1B - a peaking plant and black start plant fuelled by natural gas with a combined gross output capacity of up to 299 MW, comprising a peaking plant consisting of up to two open cycle gas turbine units or up to ten reciprocating engines and a black start plant consisting of one open cycle gas turbine unit or up to three reciprocating gas engines, including turbine buildings, diesel generators and storage tanks for black start start-up prior to gas-firing and emissions stacks;
 - Work No. 1C - combined cycle gas turbine plant cooling infrastructure, comprising up to three banks of cooling towers, cooling water pump house buildings and cooling water dosing plant buildings; and
 - ancillary buildings, enclosures, plant, equipment and infrastructure connections and works.
 - The **'Proposed Electricity Connection'** (Work No. 3) - electrical connection works, comprising:

- Work No. 3A - up to 400 kilovolt ('kV') underground electrical cables to and from the existing National Grid ('NG') 400 kV substation;
- Work No. 3B - works within the NG substation, including underground and over electrical cables, connection to busbars and upgraded or replacement equipment.
- The **'Proposed Cooling Water Connections'** (Work No. 4) - cooling water connection works, comprising works to the existing cooling water supply and discharge pipelines and intake and outfall structures within the River Aire, including, as necessary, upgraded or replacement pipelines, buildings, enclosures and structures, and underground electrical supply cables, transformers and control systems cables.
- The **'Proposed Borehole and Towns Mains Water Connections'** (Work No. 5) - ground and towns water supply connection works, comprising works to the existing groundwater boreholes and pipelines, existing towns water pipelines, replacement and new pipelines, plant, buildings, enclosures and structures, and underground electrical supply cables, transformers and control systems cables.
- The **'Proposed Rail Works'** (Work No. 10) - rail infrastructure and access works, comprising alterations to or replacement of the existing private rail line serving the existing coal-fired power station site, including new rail lines, installation of replacement crossover points and ancillary equipment and vehicular and pedestrian access and facilities.
- The **'Proposed Surface Water Discharge Connection'** (Work No. 9) - surface water drainage connection works to Hensall Dyke to the south-east of the main coal stockyard, comprising works to install or upgrade drainage pipes and works to Hensall Dyke.
- The **'Proposed Gas Connection'** (Work No. 6) - gas supply pipeline connection works for the transport of natural gas to Work No. 1, comprising an underground high pressure steel pipeline of up to 1,000 millimetres (nominal bore) in diameter and approximately 4.6 kilometres in length, including cathodic protection posts, marker posts and underground electrical supply cables, transformers and control systems cables, running from Work No. 1 under the River Aire to a connection point with the National Transmission System ('NTS') for gas No. 29 Feeder pipeline west of Burn Village.
- The **'Proposed AGI'** (Work No. 7) - an Above Ground Installation ('AGI') west of Burn Village, connecting the gas supply pipeline (Work No. 6) to the NTS No. 29 Feeder pipeline, comprising:
 - Work No. 7A - a compound for National Grid's apparatus; and
 - Work No. 7B - a compound for EPL's apparatus.
- The **'Proposed Construction Laydown Area'** (Work No. 2A) - an area for temporary construction and laydown during the construction phase, including contractor compounds and facilities, requiring the infilling of the existing coal-fired power station back-up cooling water lagoon.
- The **'Proposed Carbon Capture Readiness ('CCR') Land'** (Work No. 2B) - an area of land to be reserved for carbon capture plant should such technology become viable in the future. It is proposed that this 'reserve' land is provided on part of the area to be used for temporary construction and laydown.
- The **'Proposed Retained Landscaping'** (Work No. 8) - encompassing the existing mature tree and shrub planting along the northern and eastern sides of Wand Lane and to the eastern boundary of the existing coal-fired power station site, including that on the

embankment around the eastern, southern and western boundaries of the main coal stockyard.

- 1.16 The 'associated development', for the purposes of section 115 of the PA 2008 comprises Work Nos. 2 to 10 of the Proposed Development.
- 1.17 It is anticipated that subject to the DCO having been made by the SoS (and a final investment decision by EPL), construction work on the Proposed Development would commence in early 2019. The overall construction programme is expected to last approximately three years, although the duration of the electrical and water connection and gas supply pipeline connection works would be significantly less. The construction phase is therefore anticipated to be completed in 2022 with the Proposed Development entering commercial operation later that year.
- 1.18 A more detailed description of the Proposed Development is provided at Schedule 1 'Authorised Development' of the draft DCO and Chapter 4 'The Proposed Development' of the ES Volume I (Application Document Ref. 6.2) and the areas within which each of the main components of the Proposed Development are to be built is shown by the coloured and hatched areas on the Works Plans (Application Document Ref. 4.4).

The purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

- 1.19 The purpose of the Statement of Common Ground ('SoCG') is to set out the agreement that has been reached between EPL and Sport England in respect of the impact of the Proposed Development upon the Eggborough Sports and Social Club and associated recreational and sports grounds.

2.0 RELEVANT MATTERS

Consultation with Sport England

- 2.1 Sport England was consulted on the Proposed Development by EPL as part of its Stage 2 'statutory consultation' in January/February 2017. The Stage 2 consultation documents provided to Sport England included EPL's Preliminary Environmental Information ('PEI') Report, which in effect represented a draft Environmental Statement for the Proposed Development.
- 2.2 Sport England's response to the Stage 2 consultation (dated 31 January 2017) related to the potential impact of the Proposed Development upon the Eggborough Sports and Social Club and its associated recreational and sports grounds.
- 2.3 The Eggborough Sports and Social Club comprises a rectangular parcel of land occupying the area to the west of the operational area of the existing coal-fired power station up to the A19 Selby Road. A brick built club house (including bar, function rooms and changing facilities) and associated car park is located roughly within the centre of the land. The remainder of the land is laid out as recreational and sports grounds, including a bowling green and nine-hole golf course. The northern, eastern (with the A19) and southern boundaries are characterised by mature trees and there is further planting on the golf course.
- 2.4 The Proposed Development involves some works within the recreational and sports grounds to provide a groundwater borehole connection for the new gas-fired generating station.
- 2.5 Sport England's response states that the Eggborough Sports and Social Club is considered to "...constitute playing field, or land last used as playing field..." and that the "...plans indicate that a proposed borehole water connection will be on the playing field and bowling green to the west of the cooling towers." Furthermore, that if the borehole results in the loss of the playing field and bowling green, EPL would need to satisfy the exceptions set out in Sport England's 'Playing Fields Policy: A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England'.
- 2.6 Sport England's response continues:
"If the borehole is subterranean in nature, and the works would be temporary whilst the borehole is constructed and the playing field and bowling green would be made good afterwards, Sport England does adopt a flexible approach to these type of works. Sport England would not object provided any current uses of the site could be accommodated on a host site during the construction and that the playing field and the green are restored to their original condition."
- 2.7 A copy of Sport England's response (dated 31 January 2017) is provided at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.8 EPL provided a response to the issues raised by Sport England on 23 February 2017. This confirmed that:
"The new water connection to the proposed CCGT power station would be to an existing borehole that is located within the sports grounds, which is already used to supply water to the coal-fired power station. The new water connection of the CCGT power station would be provided in the form of a new underground pipe. It is possible that we may be able to use the route of the existing pipeline. There would be some temporary disturbance of a small part of the sports grounds while the pipe is installed (within a trench). During the installation of the pipe the works area would be secured for health and safety purposes but this would not have a material impact on the overall

use of the sports grounds and recreational space, which would remain open for use. Following the installation of the pipe the area would be reinstated to its original condition. As such, the proposals would not result in any permanent loss of sports grounds and recreational space at the site.”

2.9 Sport England responded as follows on 9 March 2017:

“Sport England takes a pragmatic approach to temporary disturbances to playing field on the basis that:

- *Any sport facilities/playing fields are reinstated to a condition that is fit for purpose – in the case of playing field, this would have to be informed by a turf grass agronomist report.*
- *Any current sport users are provided alternative facilities during the construction process and this is acceptable to the sport’s relevant national governing body.*

In light of the above, it would be useful if you could more details of the works proposed for the Sports and Social Clubs, anticipated timeframes for the construction works, details of the sporting continuity of the site during the works; and what guarantee would be used to ensure that the playing field/sport facilities are reinstated in a condition that is fit for purpose as part of the DCO.”

2.10 A copy of the 9 March 2017 response is provided at **Appendix 2**.

Minimising impacts on the Sports and Social Club

2.11 The new groundwater connection for the gas-fired generating station would be to an existing borehole that is located within the golf course area to the south-west of the cooling towers of the coal-fired power station. The new groundwater connection would be provided in the form of a buried pipe. There would be some temporary disturbance of part of the golf course (approximately 0.65 hectares) while the pipe is installed within a trench. The golf course would remain open during the works. The bowling green area would not be affected. Access to the Sports and Social Club via the existing access road from the A19 would be maintained throughout the construction works.

2.12 During the installation of the groundwater pipe the works area would be secured for health and safety purposes. The duration of the works would be for approximately three months following which the area would be fully reinstated to its former condition.

2.13 It is proposed that a ‘Detailed Design’ Requirement of the draft DCO includes the following wording in respect of the above works:

“No part of the authorised development comprised in Work No. 5 [the ground and towns water connection works] must commence until details of the following for that part have been submitted to and, after consultation with Sport England, approved by the relevant planning authority-

- (a) the route and method of construction of any upgraded or replacement ground and towns water supply pipelines;*
- (b) the method of construction, siting, layout, scale and external appearance of any upgraded or replacement ancillary plant, buildings, enclosures or structures;*

(c) measures to minimise disruption to users of the Eggborough Sports and Social Club recreational and sports facilities; and

(d) the reinstatement of the land to allow for continued recreational and sports use.”

2.14 It is agreed that the above Requirement is an appropriate means by which to minimise any impacts upon the Sports and Social Club during the short period of the water connection works, to allow for the continued use of the recreational and sports facilities during those works and to ensure that the land is appropriately reinstated.

Areas of Disagreement

2.15 There are no areas of disagreement between the parties.



Signed:

Print name and position: Richard Fordham (Planning Manager)

On behalf of Sport England:

Date: 22.05.17



Signed

Print name and position: Geoff Bullock (Partner)

On behalf of Eggborough Power Limited:

Date: 18.05.17

APPENDIX 1: SPORT ENGLAND RESPONSE DATED 31 JANUARY 2017

Subject: FW: Sport England Ref: Y/NYC/2017/44541/P - ECCGT

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 January 2017 11:48
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Eggborough Power Station - Sport England Ref: Y/NYC/2017/44541/P

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above proposal.

Sport England –Statutory Role and Policy

The site is considered to constitute playing field, or land last used as playing field, therefore Sport England advises that this proposal would require statutory consultation, under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, at the formal planning application stage.

Sport England considers proposals affecting playing fields in the light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (in particular Para. 74), and its Playing Fields Policy: ‘A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England’, which can be accessed via the following link: www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy

Sport England's policy is to oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or prejudice the use of, all or any part of a playing field, unless one or more of the five exceptions stated in its policy apply:

Sport England Policy	
Summary of Exceptions	
E1	An assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of playing fields in the catchment and the site has no special significance for sport
E2	The development is ancillary to the principal use of the playing field and does not affect the quantity/quality of pitches
E3	The development only affects land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and would lead to no loss of ability to use/size of playing pitch
E4	Playing field lost would be replaced, equivalent or better in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility
E5	The proposed development is for an indoor/outdoor sports facility of sufficient benefit to sport to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of playing field

Assessment against Sport England Policy

The plans indicate that a proposed borehole water connection will be on the playing field and bowling green to the west of the cooling towers. However, we are unable to find any details of the design and specification of the borehole connection and what the works would involve.

If the borehole results in the loss of the playing field and bowling green, the applicant would need to demonstrate exception E1 by reference to a robust and up to date Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Sport Facility Strategy that provides clear evidence that the playing field and bowling green is surplus to both current and future sporting needs.

If the applicant is unable to demonstrate exception E1, they should explore exception E4 and look to create new playing field and replace the bowling green. To meet E4, the playing field needs to be replaced within the locality. Replacement must represent a genuine replacement i.e. creation of a new playing field. Improvements to existing playing field do not represent a genuine replacement because the quantity element of the exception has not been addressed only the quality element. The quantity element can be addressed by bringing into use areas of an existing playing field that are currently incapable of supporting a

pitch or pitches without significant works, or creating new playing field on land that is not currently playing field. These areas must be assessed by a suitably qualified sports turf specialist/agronomist to provide the evidence required to show these areas will represent a genuine replacement of playing field. The replacement bowling green would have to be on land that is not playing field as this would result in a net loss of playing field if it were on existing.

If the bore hole is subterranean in nature, and the works would be temporary whilst the borehole is constructed and the playing field and bowling green would be made good afterwards, Sport England does adopt a flexible approach to these type of works. Sport England would not object provided any current uses of the site could be accommodated on a host site during the construction and that the playing field and the green are restored to their original condition.

Sport England would be pleased to provide further comments if more details of the borehole water connection can be provided.

Any new facilities should be built in accordance with Sport England's technical guidance notes, copies of which can be found at:
<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/>

Sport England reserves the right to object to any subsequent planning application if we do not consider that it accords with our playing fields policy or para 74 of NPPF.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

[Redacted contact information]

[Redacted contact information]

[Redacted contact information]

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APPENDIX 2: SPORT ENGLAND RESPONSE DATED 9 MARCH 2017

Subject: FW: Sport England Ref: Y/NYC/2017/44541/P - ECCGT

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 09 March 2017 11:23

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Sport England Ref: Y/NYC/2017/44541/P - ECCGT

Hello

Thank you for your email below.

Sport England takes a pragmatic approach to temporary disturbances to playing field on the basis that:

- Any sport facilities/playing fields are reinstated to a condition that is fit for purpose – in the case of playing field, this would have to be informed by a turf grass agronomist report.
- Any current sport users are provided alternative facilities during the construction process and this is acceptable to the sport's relevant national governing body.

In light of the above, it would be useful if you could more details of the works proposed for the Sports and Social Clubs, anticipated timeframes for the construction works, details of the sporting continuity of the site during the works; and what guarantee would be used to ensure that the playing field/sport facilities are reinstated in a condition that is fit for purpose as part of the DCO.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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