

The Planning Inspectorate

By email:

EggboroughCCGT@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Strategic Policy and Economic Growth
Trading Standards, Economic Growth and
Planning Services
Business and Environmental Services
North Yorkshire County Council
Northallerton
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Your ref:

Our ref:

Contact: Michael Reynolds

Date: 12th June 2017

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Dear Sirs

The Eggborough CCGT Project
Adequacy of consultation pursuant to s.55 of the Planning Act 2008

The following is a response made jointly on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and Selby District Council (SDC).

We are of the view that Eggborough Power Limited (EPL) together with their consultants and advisors have carried out adequate consultation in accordance with the provisions of Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008.

The applicant's planning consultants, Dalton Warner Davies (DWD), first made contact with NYCC on 20th June 2016. From that contact an initial meeting was arranged with NYCC and SDC at NYCC's Headquarters in Northallerton on 11 August. The meeting was attended by representatives from EPL, DWD and EPL's environmental consultants AECOM. At that meeting an initial outline of the plans were presented together with a timetable toward submission of the application. A similar meeting was held at the offices of Selby District Council on 30 August 2016.

Since the initial meeting, 'catch up' meetings have taken place at NYCC's Headquarters on 7 November 2017, at the application site on 27 February 2017, in addition to the PINS site visit on 26 October 2016. All meetings have been attended by both NYCC and SDC together. A further site visit attended by NYCC and SDC officers was arranged by the applicant on 14 March and the visit was again, very helpful.

Additional meetings have taken place to discuss the Planning Performance Agreement (PPA), and a special meeting was held between the applicant and the Local Highway Authority in order to discuss specific queries arising from the s42 consultation and circulation of the draft Development Consent Order prior to the submission of application.

NYCC and SDC have entered into a PPA with the applicant and a good working relationship has been established. Included in the PPA is a schedule setting out anticipated timescales for each stage of the application process, including the s42 consultations.

Outside of the statutory consultation period, the timescales for commenting on draft application documents prior to submission have been tight. However, the applicant has been clear from its initial engagement with the Authorities in respect of the anticipated submission date of the application to PINS, and have worked closely with officers of NYCC and SDC to ensure that each Authority had an opportunity to comment on relevant sections of key application documents prior to submission, and comments be taken into account.

When one chapter of the PIER was omitted in error during the second stage s42 consultation, the error was remedied immediately and the deadline for responding was extended by the applicant.

The applicant provided a draft Statement of Community Consultation on 3 August 2016. The Draft SoCC was discussed at length at the initial meeting with NYCC and SDC, and all suggestions were considered by the applicant.

NYCC and SDC considered that the applicant's proposed method of publicity of the application was adequate and agreed that advertising the venues and dates of public events in the SoCC itself could be premature and lead to confusion should these need to be altered at a later date. All other suggested additions by NYCC and SDC were included by the applicant in the final SoCC (including more detailed information on the proposed development).

It is the view of NYCC and SDC that the applicant has complied with the statutory requirements of ss42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008.

Yours faithfully


Michael Reynolds
Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure)