



# MEMO

<b>TO</b>	Peter Smith	<b>FROM</b>	Brian Sibthorp
<b>DATE</b>	30 January 2020	<b>CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	Public
<b>SUBJECT</b>	West Burton C: The Applicant's response to Issue Specific Hearing Question regarding Soil Management		

## Issue Specific Hearing Question

*Soil management - Within the dDCO (Requirement 5), the minimum final ground height is +7.1mAOD. Applicant to explain how this has been accounted for as a worst-case scenario in the ES and specifically explain how this has been assessed in relation to vehicular movements off-site and air quality.*

## Proposed response

The Applicant clarifies that the minimum final ground height stated in the dDCO (Requirement 5, Table 1), relates only to Work No. 1, Work No. 2 and Work No. 4<sup>1</sup> and not to the entire area contained within the redline boundary. The areas within which these works can be located are shown on the Works Plans.

Works No. 1, 2 and 4, briefly, comprise:

- Work No. 1: The gas fired generating station;
- Work No. 2: The gas receiving area; and
- Work No. 4: Auxiliary buildings, structures and equipment.

When taken together, Works No. 1, 2 and 4 form the main development area for the proposed plant. Existing site levels in the main development area are typically between +12 and 13m AOD, excluding the existing topsoil bund in the north of the area which rises to +16m AOD.

The Applicant does not need or intend to reduce the entire area comprising Works No.1, 2 and 4 to the minimum ground level stated in the dDCO (+7.1m AOD) but does require flexibility to reduce the final height of the ground in parts of the Site to be able to tie in to existing infrastructure.

This flexibility is required to allow a new access road from the north to be constructed as part of the development. The access road would connect to the existing Ash Haul Road, the current height of which is approximately +8m AOD and be constructed using a suitable gradient to allow connection to the main development area. Final details of the access road as well as final ground heights across the Site will be confirmed during detailed design and signed off in agreement with BDC through Detailed Design Requirement 5 (paras 1(d) and (b)) of the dDCO.

The minimum final ground height stated in the dDCO is included to ensure that the proposed access road is constructed in accordance with the minimum site level stated in the Flood Risk Assessment.

<sup>1</sup> Requirement 5, paragraph (1), (e), also refers to surface water management for the Development. Surface Water Management for the Development is described in Work No. 5 of the dDCO. Work No. 5 relates solely to surface water drainage and therefore is not relevant to a discussion on minimum final ground height.



As stated in our response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions (REP2-009, Q1.16) the Applicant will seek to achieve a broadly neutral cut and fill balance for the Proposed Development with a consistent working level of this area that is likely to be around +12 - 13m AOD, although levels of up to +14.0m AOD have been assessed in the ES as a worst case from a landscape and visual impact perspective. As discussed previously final ground heights will be confirmed during detailed design.

Any excess material generated during the construction of the development will not require transportation off-site and it is confirmed that any residual material can be accommodated within the existing redline boundary; this is the assumption used in the Transport Assessment and Traffic and Transport Chapter of the Environmental Statement.

Excess material generated during construction will be managed through the Soil and Waste Management Plan that forms part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan that is required to discharge Requirement 16 of the dDCO. This requirement (along with Requirement 5 as previously discussed) will ensure that the final site level, and the management of excess material on site are as assessed in the Environmental Statement. ie that all excess material will be retained and managed on site.

These arrangements will be used to maintain adequate environmental controls during the construction phase to avoid any environmental effects not assessed within the Environmental Statement.

Brian Sibthorp  
Thermal Power Director