



<b>Transboundary screening undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) on behalf of the Secretary of State (SoS)</b>	
<b>Project name:</b>	Kemsley Paper Mill (K4) CHP Plant
<b>Address/Location:</b>	Sittingbourne, Swale, Kent
<b>Planning Inspectorate Ref:</b>	EN010090
<b>Date(s) screening undertaken:</b>	First screening: 29 March 2018 following the Applicant's request for a scoping opinion Second screening: 10 July 2018 following submission of the application documents
<b>EEA States identified for notification:</b>	First screening: None identified Second screening: None identified

<b>FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING</b>	
<b>Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:</b>	Kemsley Paper Mill (K4) CHP Plant, Sittingbourne, Kent - EIA Scoping Report ('the Scoping Report') August 2017
<b>Screening Criteria</b>	<b>The Inspectorate's Comments</b>
<b>Characteristics of the Development</b>	<p>The Proposed Development comprises the construction, commissioning and operation of a new gas fired combined heat and power (CHP) plant (K4) to supply steam and power to Kemsley Paper Mill, followed by the decommissioning of an existing 42MWe (megawatt electrical) gas fired CHP plant (K1).</p> <p>The Scoping Report identifies the principal elements of the Proposed Development as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a gas turbine with a nominal power output of approximately 52 megawatts (MW);</li> <li>• waste heat recovery boilers with an output of approximately 105 megawatts thermal (MWth) steam; and</li> <li>• a steam turbine with a nominal power output of approximately 16MW.</li> </ul>

	<p>It would require tie-in to existing onsite facilities, which include feed water from a new water treatment plant, groundwater abstraction, and sewerage and surface effluent out-takes.</p> <p>A construction programme has not been established but the Scoping Report estimates that that the construction process would take approximately 20 months.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would have an operational lifespan of approximately 20-25 years.</p>
<p><b>Location of Development (including existing use) and Geographical area</b></p>	<p>The Proposed Development site is located on an existing industrial site approximately 2.5km to the east of Sittingbourne and approximately 600m west of the Swale Estuary, within Swale Borough Council's administrative area. The site is comprised entirely of hardstanding and contains existing buildings and structures.</p> <p>The wider site contains other industrial installations, including Kemsley Paper Mill; K1; a waste plastics and sludge fired steam generator (K2); and a combined heat and power plant (K3) currently under construction.</p> <p>13 other developments are identified in Section 3.12 of the Scoping Report as having the potential for cumulative effects. These include a business park and a number of energy and recycling facilities such as, for example, a sustainable energy plant, an incinerator bottom ash recycling facility, a materials recycling facility and waste transfer station, and a solar farm. A plan identifying the spatial relationship between the Proposed Development and other development is provided in Appendix III of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>The Applicant has not identified within the Scoping Report the nearest EEA state to the Proposed Development. The Medway Estuary is located 2.5km to the north-west of the site and flows into the Thames Estuary which flows into the North Sea.</p> <p>No information is provided in the Scoping Report about any areas which could be affected which are under the jurisdiction of another EEA State.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Importance</b></p>	<p>The Scoping Report identifies the following European sites as being within 10km of the site boundary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swale Estuary Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), 0.18km to the east</li> <li>• Swale Special Protection Area (SPA), 0.2 km to the east</li> <li>• Swale Ramsar site, 0.2 km to the east</li> <li>• Medway Estuary and Marshes SPA, 2.5 km to the north west</li> <li>• Medway Estuary and Marshes Ramsar site, 2.5 km to the north west</li> <li>• Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA, 8.5 km to the north west</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thames Estuary and Marshes Ramsar site, 8.5 km to the north west</li> <li>• Outer Thames Estuary SPA, 8.9 km to the north</li> <li>• Queendown Warren Special Area of Conservation (SAC), 9.1 km to the south west</li> </ul> <p>The locations of these sites relative to the Proposed Development site are shown in Appendix II of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>The site is located within Flood Zone 1.</p> <p>The Scoping Report identifies four AQMAs within 10km of the Proposed Development site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQMA 1 – Newington AQMA, 6 km to the west</li> <li>• AQMA 2 – Ospringe Street, Faversham, (9.7 km to the southwest)</li> <li>• AQMA 3 – East Street, Sittingbourne, 3 km to the south</li> <li>• AQMA 4 – St Pauls Street, Sittingbourne, 2.8 km to the south</li> </ul>
<p><b>Potential impacts and Carrier</b></p>	<p>The Proposed Development could impact designated sites through changes to air quality affecting interest features and supporting habitats such as, for example, impacts on bird interest features on the Swale SPA and Ramsar site through dust deposition. Nitrogen deposition on habitats could result in indirect effects on protected species.</p> <p>Pollution could be spread via air, land and water. Construction activities would emit particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and dust. Operation of the gas fired turbine would result in emissions to air of combustion-related gases including oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>). Construction and demolition activities could result in mobilisation of oil and fuels via surface water run-off and affect surface water quality.</p> <p>However, no potential impact pathways by which another EEA State could be affected have been identified in the Scoping Report. It is stated in paragraph 3.3.1 that it is not considered that there is any potential for significant transboundary effects to occur as a result of the Proposed Development.</p>
<p><b>Extent</b></p>	<p>The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.</p>
<p><b>Magnitude</b></p>	<p>The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.</p>
<p><b>Probability</b></p>	<p>The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.</p>

<b>Duration</b>	The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.
<b>Frequency</b>	The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.
<b>Reversibility</b>	The Scoping Report has not identified any impacts which would be likely to significantly affect the environment in another EEA State.
<b>Cumulative impacts</b>	Section 3.12 of the Scoping Report refers to the assessment of cumulative effects. The Applicant's cumulative impact assessment has not yet been undertaken and the Applicant has not identified any likely significant cumulative effects at this stage.

**Transboundary screening undertaken by the Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS**

Under Regulation 32 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 2017 EIA Regulations) and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant, the Inspectorate is of the view that the Proposed Development is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

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.

**Action:**

No further action required at this stage.

**Date:** 29 March 2018

**Note:** The SoS' duty under Regulation 32 of the 2017 EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.

**SECOND TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING**

<b>Documents used for transboundary Screening:</b>	Environmental Statement (ES) (April 2018) [APP-008 to APP-036] and Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (HRA Report) [AS-002] (June 2018)
<b>Date screening undertaken:</b>	Re-screened on 10 July 2018 following submission of the application documents.

**Transboundary re-screening undertaken by the Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS**

Following submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application which included the Applicant's ES and the subsequent submission of a revised HRA Report, the Inspectorate has reconsidered the transboundary screening decision made on 29 March 2018.

The Inspectorate notes that the following change has been made to the Proposed

Development the subject of the DCO application since the previous transboundary screening decision was made on 29 March 2018: the site of the Proposed Development has been extended to include a small area of additional land on its western edge. However, the Inspectorate considers that the change will not result in significant effects on the environment in another EEA State.

Under Regulation 32 of the 2017 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.

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.

**Action:**

No new EEA States have been identified as being likely to have significant effects on their environment.

**Date:** 10 July 2018

**Note:** The SoS' duty under Regulation 32 of the 2017 EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.