

# The Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order

Land at, and in the vicinity of, Drax Power Station, near Selby, North Yorkshire

Consultation Report

Appendix 27 - Press Releases Promoting the Consultation



The Planning Act 2008 – Section 37(3)(c)  
The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)  
Regulations 2009 – Regulation 5(2)(q)

## **Drax Power Limited**

Drax Repower Project

Applicant: DRAX POWER LIMITED  
Date: May 2018  
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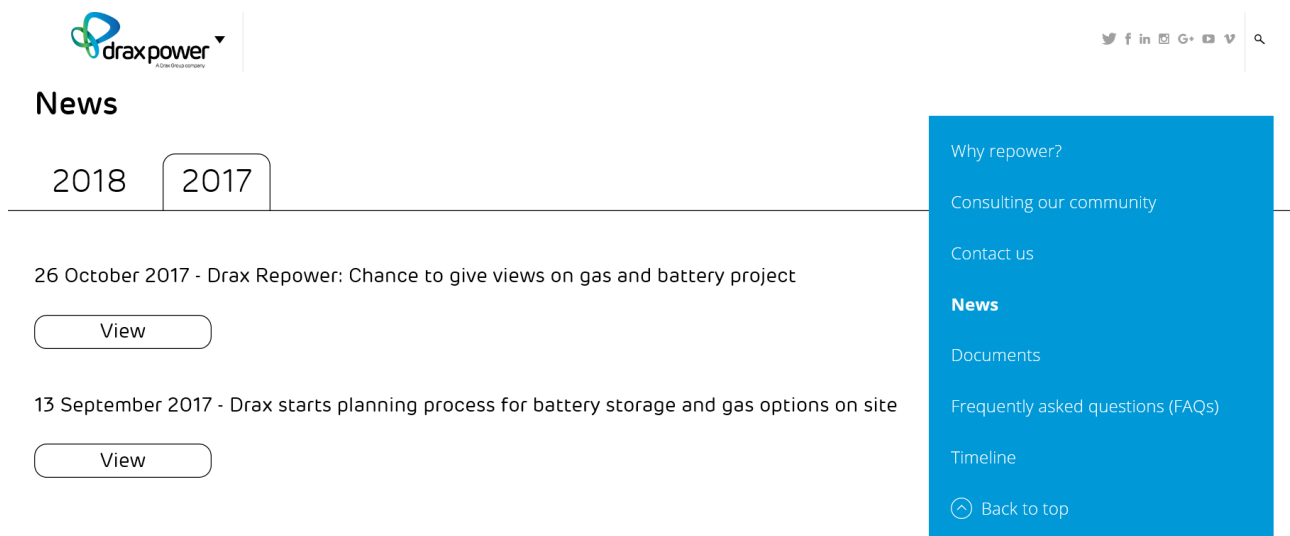
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## Drax website news page 2017



draxpower  
A Drax Group company

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## Drax website news (13 September 2017)



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Drax starts planning process for battery storage and gas options on site

13th September 2017



Drax today gave notice to the Planning Inspectorate of its intention to consult on long-term options to repower up to two coal units to gas, and build battery storage at Drax Power Station.



Plans for gas on site were announced in June and are part of an ongoing research and development project. The options could create up to 3.6GW of new gas generation capacity and 200MW of battery storage. They are subject to a positive investment decision and would need to be underpinned by a 15-year capacity market contract. The upgrade would enhance Drax Power Station's flexible and responsive capability, and make Yorkshire the home of large scale battery technology. At this early stage in the planning process these figures represent the maximum parameters of the project.

These options would, if developed, increase Drax's ability to provide the flexible generation and grid support services Britain's



electricity system will need as coal and other large power stations are turned off.



Today's notice to the Planning Inspectorate is a step in developing these options as part of Drax's strategy to play a vital role in changing the way energy is generated as the UK moves to a low carbon future.



The options complement Drax's ongoing work to explore converting a fourth unit to sustainable biomass. Three units have already been successfully upgraded, on-time and on-budget. They account for 70% of the electricity Drax produces – enough to power Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield and Liverpool and 16% of the UK's total renewable power.

Drax expects to begin consulting on these options with local communities and national stakeholders over the coming weeks.

Andy Koss, CEO of Drax Power, said:

*"We are at the start of the planning process but if developed these options for gas and battery storage show how Drax could upgrade our existing infrastructure to provide capacity, stability and essential grid services, as we do with biomass. This would continue to keep costs low for consumers and help to deliver Government's commitment to remove coal from the UK grid."*

*"Drax Power Station is a national asset and a significant driver of economic growth in the North of England. These options could repurpose up to two of our coal assets and extend their operation into the 2030s. We have always supported and worked with our local communities and want to ensure they have a role in shaping our thinking. We will undertake a comprehensive programme of local consultation and engagement over the coming months to share our options with the public and listen to their views."*



– Ends –



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#### Notes to editors

##### About the 'Drax Repower' project

The project encompasses the following elements:



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- The repowering of either one or both of Drax units 5 and 6, which are currently coal fired, to gas using two new gas turbines, a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) and cooling systems. The capacity of each gas unit would be up to 1,800 MW, with a combined maximum possible capacity of 3,600 MW.
- A battery storage facility of up to 200 MW capacity.
- A new gas connection, entering the eastern side of the existing station.
- An electrical connection into the 400 kV substation from the repowered unit(s) would allow for electricity to be distributed into the National Grid.

Further information about the project, consultation and planning application will be published in the coming months on a dedicated website: <http://repower.drax.com>

### About the planning regime

The proposed development is a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP) under "the construction or extension of a generating station" category in Part 3 Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended). As such, Drax is required to seek planning permission known as a Development Consent Order (DCO) from the Planning Inspectorate: an executive agency of the government that manages nationally significant infrastructure projects.

### About Drax Group



Drax Group plc plays a vital role in helping change the way energy is generated, supplied and used as the UK moves to a low carbon future. Drax operates the largest power station in the UK, based at Selby, North Yorkshire and supplies 7 percent of the country's electricity needs. The energy firm converted from burning coal to become a predominantly biomass-fuelled electricity generator. Drax is the biggest single site renewable generator in the UK and the largest decarbonisation project in Europe. Its 2,300-strong staff operate across three principal areas of activity – electricity generation, electricity sales to business customers and compressed wood pellet production.

The Group includes:

**Drax Biomass**, based in the US and manufactures compressed wood pellets produced from sustainably managed working forests.

**Haven Power**, based in Ipswich, providing businesses with electricity.

**Opus Energy**, based in Oxford, Northampton and Cardiff, providing electricity and gas to businesses.

For more information visit [www.drax.com](http://www.drax.com)

## Drax website news (26 October 2017)



# Drax Repower: Chance to give views on gas and battery project

26th October 2017



People can find out more about Drax Power Station's plans to upgrade up to two of its coal-fired electricity generating units to gas at events taking place next month.



Drax gave notice to the Planning Inspectorate in September about its intention to consult on the proposals, which are part of its strategy to play a vital role in changing the way energy is generated as the UK moves to a low carbon future.



The ongoing research and development project is exploring options including up to 3.6 gigawatts (GW) of new gas generation



capacity and 200MW of battery storage in line with government plans to phase out coal by 2025.



The power station near Selby is already the UK's largest single site renewable power generator having converted three coal generating units to use sustainable wood pellets. More than two thirds of the power produced is now renewable, providing 17% of the UK's renewable electricity – enough for four million homes.



The upgrades would enhance Drax Power Station's flexible and responsive capability, and make Yorkshire the home of large scale battery technology.

### **Andy Koss, CEO of Drax Power, said:**

*"We have always supported and worked with our local communities and want to ensure they have a role in shaping our thinking for the future. Drax Power Station is a national asset and a significant driver of economic growth in the North of England.*

*"These options could repurpose up to two of our coal assets and extend their operation into the 2030s, securing the future of the plant beyond 2025 when the government says coal must come off the system.*

*"We are undertaking a comprehensive programme of consultation over the coming months to share our ideas with the public and listen to their views."*

Public consultation events will give people the opportunity to find out more about the plans. Events will take place at:



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Wednesday 8 November, 4pm to 8pm



Selby Town Hall, York St, Selby YO8 4AJ



Thursday 9 November, 11am to 4.30pm

Drax Sports and Social Club, The Blue Room, Main Rd, Drax, Selby YO8 8PJ

Saturday 11 November, 10.30am to 1.30pm

Junction, Paradise Place, Goole DN14 5DL

The options for repowering to gas and building battery storage complement Drax's ongoing work to explore options for further generation from sustainable biomass.

Mr Koss added: *"This is the start of the planning process but if developed these options for gas and battery storage show how we could upgrade our existing infrastructure to provide capacity, stability and essential grid services, as we do with biomass.*

*"This would continue to keep costs low for consumers and help to deliver the government's commitment to remove coal from the UK grid."*

The project includes the following elements:

- Up to 3.6 GW of new gas generation capacity and up to 200MW of battery storage. The capacity of the coal units being replaced



- Up to 3.6 GW of new gas generation capacity and up to 200MW of battery storage. The capacity of the coal units being replaced is 1.3GW.



- The gas generation plant will include up to four new combined cycle gas turbines (CCGTs).



- A new gas pipeline connection to the National Gas Transmission System and an electrical connection into Drax's existing substation to allow electricity to be exported to the National Grid.



- A temporary crane positioned next to the existing jetty on the River Ouse and at a point close to the power station during construction.

- Environmental assessments will consider issues such as local planning, air and water quality, flood risk, traffic and transport, noise, ecology, heritage and the effects on landscape and visual amenity.

Subject to development consent being granted and construction going ahead, the Drax Repower project (gas generating plants, battery storage and gas pipeline) could be operational in 2023/24.

Further information about the project, the consultation and planning application will be published on a dedicated website: <http://repower.drax.com>

– Ends –

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#### About Drax Group



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Drax is the biggest single site renewable generator in the UK and the largest decarbonisation project in Europe. Its 2,300-strong staff operate across three principal areas of activity – electricity generation, electricity sales to business customers and compressed wood pellet production.



The Group includes:

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## Drax website news 2018



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## Drax website news (11 January.2018)



# More local events to discuss gas and battery project

11th January 2018



More events are being held to ensure local people have their say about Drax Power Station's plans to repower up to two of its remaining coal-fired electricity generating units with gas and install what could be amongst the largest batteries in the world.



Drax's project team will be on hand at the events to discuss the plans with local people and listen to their views. New images and interactive displays showing what the development will include, as well as an environmental impact report, will also be available.



If the plans go ahead in their entirety, the development would include two combined-cycle gas turbines (CCGTs) which would also be



capable of operating as rapid response gas power plants in open-cycle mode, with a combined capacity of up to 3,600 megawatts (MW) of electricity as well as battery storage of up to 200MW.

The exhibitions follow on from similar events held in November and are part of the statutory consultation process required ahead of submitting an application for a Development Consent Order.

**Andy Koss, Chief Executive of Drax Power, said:**

*"Holding public events to share our ideas with local people is a great way to hear their views. It's really important to us that we support and work with our local communities – we want people who live and work in the area near the power station to play a part in shaping our thinking for the future. We look forward to sharing our ideas and hearing thoughts."*

*"The options we're exploring could reuse some of the existing infrastructure from the remaining coal assets at Drax and extend their operation as gas plant into the 2030s. The Repower project could secure the future of the power station beyond 2025 when the government says coal must come off the system."*

*"Drax Power Station is a national asset and a significant driver of economic growth in the North of England, generating more than £1/2bn for the northern economy and supporting 6,000 jobs."*

Drax is already the UK's largest single site renewable power generator having converted three coal generating units to use sustainable wood pellets. More than two thirds of the power produced is now renewable, providing 17% of the UK's renewable electricity – enough for four million homes.



electricity – enough for four million homes.

Mr Koss explained that by upgrading its existing infrastructure to use gas it would provide more capacity, stability and essential grid services keeping costs low for consumers and delivering the government's commitment to end power generation with unabated coal by 2025.

**Public exhibitions featuring Drax's proposals are taking place at the following venues:**

- Selby Town Hall, York Street, Selby, YO8 4AJ – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (10am – 4pm)
- Drax Sports and Social Club, Main Road, Drax, Selby, YO8 8PJ – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 (3pm – 8pm)
- Junction, 2 Paradise Place, Goole, DN14 5DL – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (2pm – 7pm)
- Selby Town Hall, York Street Selby, YO8 4AJ – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February (10am – 4pm)
- Hemingbrough Methodist Church Hall, 2 Main Street, Hemingbrough, YO8 6QE – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February (9.30am – 1.30pm)

Leaflets about the project have been sent to homes and businesses in the areas around the power station.

The project's consultation documents, including the Project's Preliminary Environmental Information Report, are also available to view at the following locations from 16<sup>th</sup> January until 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018, when the statutory consultation period closes:

- Selby District Council, Access Selby, Market Cross Shopping Centre, Selby, YO8 4JS
- North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Customer Service Centre, Cross Street, Beverley, HU17 9BA



- Selby Library, 52 Micklegate, Selby YO8 4EQ
- Snaith Library, 27 Market Place, Snaith DN14 9HE
- Goole Library, Carlisle Street, Goole DN14 5DS

The options for repowering to gas and building battery storage complement Drax's ongoing work to explore options for further generation from sustainable biomass and are part of its strategy to play a vital role in changing the way energy is generated as the UK moves to a low carbon future.

Subject to development consent and construction, the project could start generating electricity in 2022/23.

Further information about the project, the consultation and planning application are available on the project website: <http://repower.drax.com>.

– Ends –

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**About the Repower Project**

Drax's proposals include the following elements:

- Up to 3,600 megawatts (MW) of new gas generation capacity and up to 200MW of battery storage – two battery storage facilities, one per unit and each up to 100MW



- The capacity of the Drax's coal units being considered for this project is 1,290MW.
- Gas-fired generation units (four new turbines, up to two per unit) that can operate in combined-cycle or open-cycle modes.
- Use of existing steam turbines and cooling towers.
- A new gas pipeline connection to the National Gas Transmission System and an electrical connection into Drax's existing substation to allow electricity to be exported to the National Grid.
- An option to install a temporary crane positioned next to the existing jetty on the River Ouse and at a point close to the power station during construction.
- Environmental assessments are considering issues such as local planning, air and water quality, flood risk, traffic and transport, noise, ecology, heritage and the effects on landscape and visual amenity.

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## Drax website news (7 February 2018)



# Public exhibitions about Drax Repower held, consultation period remains open until 27th February

### 7th February 2018



The final public exhibitions about the Drax Repower project were held last week in Selby and Hemingbrough but people still have until 27<sup>th</sup> February to consider the Project's Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and share their feedback with Drax.



Over the past fortnight, five exhibitions have been held in the local area. The project team has also recently met Selby District councillors and representatives of the parish councils that are local to Drax Power Station.



The public exhibitions explained the main elements of the Repower project, the need for it to be built, the main points from the PEIR and the various studies that Drax and its project team has undertaken over recent months. The exhibitions also showed visitors what the Repower project could look like from different viewpoints, including two possible routes for the c. 3km underground pipeline that would connect the power station to the national gas grid. 135 people visited the exhibitions and spoke with members of the project team.



The exhibition boards, alongside a leaflet about the Project scheme, the PEIR, a Project Overview document and the Project's Statement of Community Consultation can be found in the **document section** of our website. The suite of documents can also be viewed at Access Selby, County Hall in Northallerton and East Riding of Yorkshire's Customer Service Centre in Beverley. The libraries in Selby, Snaith and Goole also host these documents.

Gathering local feedback to the Repower Project is an important part of the planning process, and people have until 5.00pm on February 27<sup>th</sup> to provide their feedback. They can do this via the project website, by email to [DraxRepower@drax.com](mailto:DraxRepower@drax.com) or by writing to us at FREEPOST DRAX REPOWER.

Whilst the statutory period of consultation remains open till the end of this month, the Project team is continuing its engineering and environmental studies. The team will also consider the feedback that it receives from local people, local councils and various other organisations. The feedback will help inform the final designs of the project.

Currently, Drax is aiming to finalise and submit its application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

within the next 3-4 months. A final decision from the Secretary of State, after an independent examination period, could be expected in the second half of 2019.

We will issue Information Updates as the project moves forward.