

The Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order

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

Statement of Common Ground between Drax Power Limited and Selby
Area Internal Drainage Board

(Submitted for Deadline 3)



The Planning Act 2008

Drax Power Limited

Drax Repower Project

Applicant: DRAX POWER LIMITED
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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
AGI	Above Ground Installation
Applicant	Drax Power Limited (also referred to as Drax)
Application	Application made by Drax Power Limited for a Development Consent Order on 29 May 2018
Authorised Development	Development described in Schedule 1 of the draft Development Consent Order
CCGT	Combined Cycle Gas Turbine
OCGT	Open Cycle Gas Turbine
DCO	Development Consent Order
Drax	Drax Power Limited (also referred to as the Applicant)
ES	Environmental Statement
GRF	Gas Receiving Facility
HRSG	Heat Recovery Steam Generator
LA	Local Authority
MOC	Minimum Offtake Connection
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NPS	National Policy Statement
NTS	National Transmission System
PA 2008	Planning Act 2008
PIG	Pipeline Inspection Gauge
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
PRMS	Pressure Reduction and Metering Station
Proposed Scheme	Drax Repower Project
SAIDB	Selby Area Internal Drainage Board
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
WFD	Water Framework Directive

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground ("SoCG") has been prepared by Drax Power Limited ("Drax" or "the Applicant") and Selby Area Internal Drainage Board (SAIDB) in relation to an application ("the Application") made by Drax for a Development Consent Order on 29 May 2018 to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("the SoS"). The Application relates to the Drax Repower Project ("the Proposed Scheme") which is described in section 1.2 below.
- 1.1.2 For the purpose of this SoCG, Drax and Selby Area Internal Drainage Board will be referred to as the "Parties".
- 1.1.3 The purpose of this SoCG is to set out the agreement that has been reached between the Parties in respect of a number of matters relating to the Proposed Scheme, including:
- Consultation with Selby Area Internal Drainage Board
 - Scope of the ES assessment
 - ES assessment methodology
 - Results of the ES assessment
 - General construction and consent requirements for works undertaken in, on, over, under or near existing land drainage ditches
- 1.1.4 Section 2 of this SoCG sets out the areas of agreement in relation to the above matters, and any areas of disagreement between the Parties.

1.2 The Proposed Scheme

- 1.2.1 Drax is proposing to repower up to two existing coal-fired units (known as unit 5 and unit 6) with gas – this means the existing coal-fired units would be decommissioned and replaced with newly constructed gas-fired units utilising some of the existing infrastructure. Each unit, which is a new gas fired generating station in its own right, would comprise combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) and open cycle gas turbine (OCGT) technology. Each new gas generating unit would also use existing infrastructure, including the cooling system and steam turbines, and would each have a new capacity of up to 1,800 MW, replacing existing units each with a capacity of up to 660 MW. Each unit would have a battery storage capability (subject to technology and commercial considerations). Should both units be repowered, the new gas-fired units / generating stations would have a total combined capacity of up to 3,800 MW).
- 1.2.2 Drax is seeking consent for the flexibility to construct a single generating station with an 1,800 MW generating capacity or to construct two generating stations each with a 1,800 MW generating capacity. The construction of each new gas fired generating station would repower either one or both of Unit 5 and Unit 6. The decision as to whether Drax constructs one or two gas fired generating stations and when, is a commercial decision that can only be taken post any consent being granted.

- 1.2.3 In order to repower to gas, a new Gas Pipeline needs to be constructed from Drax Power Station to the National Gas Transmission System (NTS). In addition, an Above Ground Installation (AGI), and Gas Receiving Facility (GRF) are required. A connection to the electrical network would be made via the existing National Grid Substation within the Existing Drax Power Station Complex. Other development includes construction laydown areas, a passing place to enable the construction of the Gas Pipeline and a temporary bridge during construction.
- 1.2.4 The development being applied for is called the "Proposed Scheme" and is more fully described in Schedule 1 of the draft Development Consent Order (where it is termed the "Authorised Development").
- 1.2.5 The Proposed Scheme includes the construction of a generating station with a capacity of more than 50 MW and accordingly meets the criteria given in the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) ("PA 2008") for being a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ("**NSIP**").
- 1.2.6 As a NSIP, the Proposed Scheme therefore requires a Development Consent Order ("DCO") from the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

2 CONSULTATION WITH SELBY AREA INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

2.1 Consultation with Selby Area Internal Drainage Board

2.1.1 The consultation that has taken place with SAIDB up to the date of this SoCG concerning the issues raised within this SoCG is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 - Consultation with Selby Area Internal Drainage Board

Ref	Date	Form of contact or type of correspondence	Summary of that contact and key outcomes and points of discussion
1	Nov & Dec 2017	Email	Agreed that the proposed study area of 1km for the assessment of impacts was satisfactory.
2	8-Feb-18	Email	Confirmation of items discussed in telephone discussion with Paul Jones, Engineer to the Board, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land drainage consent requirements. Construction requirements for the gas pipeline beneath watercourses. Surface water runoff from new impermeable areas. Existing discharge points should be used wherever possible. New outfall position and construction requirements. Groundwater levels in this area. General pollution prevention measures to be applied. Temporary pumping of groundwater in excavations. Discharge of surplus water. Future monitoring and sampling. Historic flood records or water quality data.
3	30-Apr-18	Email	SAIDB confirm no adverse impacts perceived by proposed works from WFD perspective.
4	13-Sep-18	Email	Discussion of draft SoCG.
5	4-Oct-18	Email	Confirmation that a crossing and culvert of Dickon Field Drain is acceptable in principle to SAIDB

- 2.1.2 It is AGREED that Table 1 is an accurate record of the key correspondence between Drax and SAIDB.

3 MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED

The following is AGREED between the Parties:

3.1 Environmental Statement

- 3.1.1 It is agreed that Chapter 12 (Water Resources, Quality and Hydrology) in the Environmental Statement submitted with the Application ([APP-080](#)) accurately sets out the consultation and engagement undertaken between the Parties in relation to the Application.
- 3.1.2 The scope of the ES assessment is agreed in terms of the 1km Study Area and the surface water features, drainage ditches, culverts and other land drainage assets identified for assessment within that Study Area.
- 3.1.3 It is agreed that the methodology adopted for the ES assessment, as set out in the ES Chapter 12: Water Resources, Quality and Hydrology is appropriate for the assessment of impacts to surface water features, drainage ditches, culverts and other land drainage assets.
- 3.1.4 It is agreed that the control of surface water runoff and risk of pollution of surface waters, drainage ditches and groundwater during construction activities can be mitigated to be negligible through use of, and adherence to, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). An Outline CEMP has been submitted as part of the DCO application ([APP-133](#)), and approval of the CEMP and its implementation are secured by Requirement 16 to the draft DCO (AS-012).
- 3.1.5 It is agreed that the proposed mitigation measures described in ES Chapter 12: Water Resources, Quality and Hydrology and included in the surface water drainage strategy (submitted as part of the Flood Risk Assessment ([APP-136](#))) are sufficient to mitigate the identified impacts relating to surface water runoff, flood risk and preventing pollution of watercourses to be negligible. The approval and implementation of the surface water drainage strategy are adequately secured by Requirement 13 to the draft DCO.

3.2 Consents

- 3.2.1 In relation to the land drainage consent required from SAIDB for any works undertaken within 7m of the top of the bank of a watercourse, it is agreed that the Applicant's DCO may disapply the requirement for such a separate consent, subject to no obstructions above ground being within 7 metres of the edge of the watercourse, or any such obstruction to be discussed and agreed direct with the IDB.
- 3.2.2 In relation to the separate land drainage consent from SAIDB for the temporary pumping of groundwater in excavations, it is agreed that the Applicant's DCO may disapply the requirement for such separate consent, subject to all groundwater discharges being filtered, being restricted to 1.4 litres per second per hectare, with the groundwater pumping rate and volume to be confirmed as part of the consent, and in compliance with the Pollution Prevention Guidelines.

- 3.2.3 With respect to a separate abstraction consent from the Environment Agency (EA) for temporary pumping of groundwater in excavations during construction, the Applicant is seeking to disapply the requirement to obtain such a consent from the EA in the DCO, and will be discussing this further with the EA.

3.3 Construction of Gas Pipeline Across or Near Existing Land Drainage Ditches

- 3.3.1 SAIDB has no special preference for the method of construction of the Gas Pipeline beneath watercourses. It is agreed that the Gas Pipeline shall be installed with a minimum clearance of 1m below the existing bed of a watercourse.
- 3.3.2 Where the Gas Pipeline is installed by open cut trenching, it is agreed that the banks of watercourses are to be reinstated to the original alignment and slope, and grass seeded as soon as practicable after installation. Erosion protection shall be included in the bank reinstatement where necessary.
- 3.3.3 It is agreed that the position of each Gas Pipeline crossing shall be marked by a marker post on each bank of the watercourse.

3.4 Construction Works Generally

- 3.4.1 Groundwater levels are frequently high in this area. It is agreed that the buoyancy of the Gas Pipeline and associated apparatus shall be considered in the detailed design.
- 3.4.2 It is agreed that general pollution prevention measures shall be applied.
- 3.4.3 It is agreed that SAIDB has no special restrictions for the discharge of surplus water providing the Applicant is following Pollution Prevention Guidelines.
- 3.4.4 It is agreed that SAIDB has no requirements for permanent monitoring and sampling of discharged surface water.

3.5 Dickon Field Drain

- 3.5.1 It is agreed that a new culvert crossing of the Dickon Field Drain for land access (as included within Work No. 6A in Schedule 1 to the draft DCO (AS-012)) is acceptable in principle. The size of the culvert should be determined during detailed design based upon any existing upstream and downstream culverts and should be no less than 600mm in diameter. It is also agreed that if the new culvert crossing is circa 12 m in pipe length, then a 600mm diameter culvert or diameter based upon a downstream culvert will be sufficient with the invert level set 150mm below the hard bed of the watercourse. It is agreed that the requirement for a separate consent from SAIDB for this culvert may be disappplied in the DCO.

3.6 New Discharges and Outfalls

- 3.6.1 It is agreed that surface water runoff from new impermeable areas shall be limited to the pre-development greenfield runoff rate or 1.4l/s/ha, whichever is the least.
- 3.6.2 It is agreed that existing discharge points shall be used wherever possible.

- 3.6.3 It is agreed that new outfalls shall be set back from the existing bank and not protrude into the watercourse. Erosion protection shall be provided in the existing bed and banks if required. A marker post shall be provided at the top of the bank at all new outfalls.
- 3.6.4 It is agreed that the invert levels of any new outfalls are designed in relation to existing watercourses (or receiving watercourse) and that outfalls shall not be below existing watercourse bed levels and not submerged below 'normal' water levels. Any variation to be discussed and agreed with the IDB.

3.7 Water Framework Directive

- 3.7.1 It is agreed no adverse impacts are perceived by the proposed works from a WFD perspective.

3.8 Matters Under Discussion

- 3.8.1 It is agreed that all necessary applications for Land Drainage Consent from SAIDB will be made at the appropriate times with further dialogue and notifications between the Parties as required.
- 3.8.2 There are no other outstanding matters under discussion.

4 AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG

4.1.1 This SoCG has been jointly prepared and agreed by

Name:

PAUL JONES BSc(Hons) MSc(Eng) QMICE

Signature:

Position:

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD

On behalf of:

SELBY AREA INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Date:

9/11/18

Name:

OLIVER, BOYBKT

Signature:

Position:

ENVIRONMENT & GOVERNANCE SECTION HEAD.

On behalf of:

Drax Power Ltd

Date:

12/11/18

Name:

Signature:

Position:

On behalf of:

Date: