

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Drax Re-Power - Note for the Examining Authority - EN010091
Date: 05 December 2018 09:23:20

Dear Planning Inspector,

Further to your request yesterday afternoon at the open floor hearing in Goole, I rephrase my public statement (the third of the three presented) as follows:

Drax expects a useful life of 25 years for each of the two units proposed, and to start generating electricity during 2022/2023. Given that the IPCC's now firm findings that countries such as the UK must be fully decarbonised (firstly in the power sector) by 2030, the maximum duration which each unit can operate at all, let alone at full capacity, is eight years. That is, one third of their expected life – making it likely that investing in the units is at least unwise (in addition to be highly unethical given climate change).

Drax is likely to have gone out of business by the end of 2027 anyway, when its subsidy expires – perhaps sooner if OFGEM tightens its sustainability criteria and/or more carefully scrutinises the audits made by the Sustainable Biomass Partnership – which is not independent of Drax (Drax being one of its founding partners). Without those subsidies, Drax is not commercially viable. Being the only large scale power station world wide which uses woody biomass as its primary fuel tends to confirm that conclusion.

Approving this application would self-evidently encourage investment in the UK's fracking industry – which would be contrary to climate change imperatives.

I would supplement this with one further paragraph, which I hope you will also consider, as follows –

The UK is already set to break its own law (specifically the fourth and fifth carbon budgets established in the 2008 Climate Change Act). In so far as approving this application would compound that illegality, I would urge you to deem this application either inadmissible or beyond your remit.

Thank you,

Yours sincerely,

James Hewitt
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

