

FAO Tracey Williams
Ref EN010092
National Infrastructure Planning
The Planning Inspectorate
National Quay House
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol BS1 6PN
thurrockfpg@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your Ref: EN010092

E-Mail: dm@thurrock.gov.uk

Date: 23 March 2021

Dear Ms Williams,

Planning Act 2008

Ref: EN010092

Proposal: Flexible Generation Plant comprising gas reciprocating engines with electrical output totalling 600 MW; batteries with electrical output of 150 MW; gas and electricity connections; the creation of access roads and a causeway; and creation of habitat and exchange Common Land

Location: Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant Fort Road Tilbury

Deadline 2

Further to the above I write to you to provide a response to the points raised as requirements of Deadline 2 as set out in the final examination timetable attached as Annex A from the Inspector's letter dated 16 February 2021.

- *Responses to ExQ1;*

Please see the enclosed/attached Thurrock Council's response to the ExQ1 and the enclosed maps for the Common Land area question.

- *Local Impact Reports (LIRs) from Local Authorities;*

Please see the enclosed/attached Local Impact Report from Thurrock Council.

- *Written Representations (WRs) including summaries of all WRs exceeding 1500 words;*

Please see the enclosed/attached Written Representations from Thurrock Council.

- *Comments on Relevant Representations;*

Having reviewed all the Relevant Representations TC does not wish to make comments to these.

- *Comments on Procedural Deadline D submissions;*

Following the Council's review of the consultation responses to Deadline D the Council wishes to make the following points in regard to the material considerations as stated below:

Ecology

Thurrock Council's Landscape and Ecology Advisor has commented on Natural England's letter dated 1 February 2021 as follows:

Thurrock Council is not the competent authority with regards to the HRA for this development. As a result it has not been party to the detailed discussions between the applicant and Natural England.

Natural England acknowledge that while the areas of saltmarsh and mudflats affected by the proposed scheme are small in terms of the overall area of the SPA and its functionally linked land it is considered that the impacts in combination with those from multiple local projects should be considered. Within this section of functionally linked habitat the Tilbury 2 DCO has been permitted, the Lower Thames Crossing and London Resort DCOs are being progressed. Thurrock Council agrees that the HRA should ensure that it adequately addresses this issue.

Natural England require the details of the avoidance and mitigation measures to be adopted during the construction and use of the Causeway. Thurrock Council supports this requirement.

Restrictions of public access to the causeway. This is clearly important operationally to avoid disturbance to birds using the functionally linked land. Alternative designs could be used to the proposed fencing and lessen the visual effects for users of Footpath 146.

Separate Planning Application with the Council ref 20/01257/FUL

For the benefit of the Inspector Thurrock Council are currently dealing with the application referred to below:

Reference: 20/01257/FUL

Proposal: Temporary car park with a capacity for 200 cars, temporary security fencing, temporary welfare facilities, temporary bike rack and a temporary bus shelter. The existing hardstanding would be retained as parking surface and all trees would be retained on site.

Location: The Race Way Tavern Arena Essex Arterial Road

The application seeks a temporary car park (for up to 3 years) that would function as a transfer point for construction workers on the Thurrock Power DCO project to park cars and

transfer to minibuses and coaches for access to the construction site on Tilbury Marshes. The applicant explains that this would reduce traffic flows on the local roads approaching the construction site.

It is noted that Highways England referred to this application in their consultation response to Deadline D dated 25 January 2021 so it is important that you are made aware of this.

The current status of the planning application is that it is still a live application pending consideration.

If you need to view information on this application please see the link below using the reference number 20/01257/FUL:

[Planning records online | Search planning records | Thurrock Council](#)

Heritage

As identified in Thurrock Council's Local Impact Report the current position with regard to archaeology and heritage assets requires further information to be submitted by the applicant. Thurrock Council's heritage consultees have been working jointly with Historic England on this and therefore shares some of the concerns raised by Historic England in their consultation response to Deadline D.

Thurrock Council have been made aware from recent discussions with the applicant they intend to provide further information on heritage through Deadline 2 and therefore Thurrock Council welcomes the opportunity to review this information once formally received and when comments are invited. Thurrock Council are proactively looking to reach an agreed position with the applicant on the heritage position.

- *Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) requested by the ExA;*

The latest SoCG is enclosed/attached.

- *Statement of Commonality of SoCG;*

This is included in the Statement of Common Ground and some matters as indicated are still undergoing discussions with the applicant.

- *The Compulsory Acquisition (CA) Schedule;*

From the information provided, other than public highway land there does not appear to be any land within the ownership of Thurrock Council included within the application, however, at the time of writing this still being reviewed.

- *Comments on any Additional Submissions accepted by the ExA;*

No comments to make.

- *A Guide to the Application;*

I understand this a requirement for the applicant.

- *Any other information requested by the ExA for submission at Deadline 2.*

No other information or response to report.

I trust that this information is of assistance and should wish to contact me regarding the content of this letter then please use the email address provided.

Yours sincerely



Chris Purvis
Major Applications Manager