

THURROCK FLEXIBLE GENERATION PLANT

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTICE OF A DECISION ON AN APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR EIA DEVELOPMENT

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (“the Secretary of State”) gives notice under regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that a determination has been made on an application (“the Application”) made by Thurrock Power Limited for development consent under the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) for Environmental Impact Assessment development.

The Application was made in respect of the Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant which would comprise a gas-fired electricity generating station with a generating capacity of up to 620MW and a battery storage facility with a generating capacity of up to 150MW¹ (with storage capacity of up to 600MWh) along with related infrastructure.

The Secretary of State has determined, following consideration of the report of the Examining Authority which conducted an examination into the Application, that development consent should be granted and has decided, therefore, to make an Order under sections 114, 115, and 120 and Schedule 5 of the 2008 Act in respect of the Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant.

The statement of reasons for deciding to make an Order granting development consent, which has been prepared by the Secretary of State under section 116 of the 2008 Act and regulation 31(2) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, containing the content of the decision, the requirements imposed in connection with the development, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision is based including relevant information about the participation of the public, a description of the main features to avoid, reduce and offset any major adverse effects of the development, is published on the Planning Inspectorate’s web-site:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/thurrock-flexible-generation-plant/> .

¹ A net rated electrical output of up to 600MW had been applied for and used during examination to define the proposed Development. The Applicant subsequently explained that its assessment of generating capacity is based on the net export potential to the grid after the loss of cannibalised energy to run the functions of the proposed Development, and the actual installed gross generating capacity of the gas turbines would be up to 620MW. In order to provide consistency of approach to the issue of the capacity of gas-fired generating stations, the Secretary of State has adopted the figure for gross capacity.

The statement of reasons contains the information required by regulation 31(2) including information regarding the right to challenge the decision and the procedures for doing so.

Hard copies of the decision documentation will also be available to inspect at the Planning Inspectorate's offices (by appointment using the contact details below):

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House
Bristol
BS1 6PN

To make an appointment for inspection of the documents contact the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000 or email NIEnquiries@pins.gsi.gov.uk .

Copies of the Secretary of State's decision letter and the text of the Order can be obtained by writing or by sending an e-mail to the Planning Inspectorate. No charge will be made for this service.