
EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S NOTE OF UNACCOMPANIED SITE INSPECTION

Application for Development Consent for the VPI Immingham OCGT Project

Case Reference: EN010097

Wednesday 7 August 2019

Particulars of the inspection

The inspection was undertaken by the Examining Authority (ExA), Mr Rory Cridland with Tracey Williams and Ewa Sherman of the Planning Inspectorate in attendance.

Weather conditions were generally fair providing good visibility of the main features of the surrounding landscape and built environment.

The purpose of the inspection was for the ExA to familiarise himself with the site and surrounding area, and to support the examination of the proposed VPI Immingham OCGT project. The ExA wanted to observe the application site from both nearby and longer-range viewpoints. The visit was made by car and on foot. All sites visited were publicly accessible and the ExA did not encounter any interested or affected parties during the inspection.

The site visit began at 15:10pm and ended at 17:40pm

The ExA visited a number of locations in the surrounding area. This included locations at or near to representative viewpoints (VP) 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 as identified in Appendix 10C of the Environmental Statement (Viewpoint Location Plan) [APP-094]. VP's 2 & 3 were not visited as the ExA was of the opinion that views from these sites were not required to aid his understanding of the site and its surroundings at this time. However, should any interested parties consider that visiting these sites would be beneficial, the ExA would be happy to visit them as part of any Accompanied Site Visit.

The ExA began by observing the site at distance from the B1211 near the Brocklesby Estate (VP8) before proceeding to view the site from Cravens Lane (VP5). The ExA then travelled by car to Woodlands Avenue (VP4) and viewed the site from this residential street where he noted the visibility of the existing VPI CHP stack on the skyline. The ExA then viewed the site from Staple Road (VP6) where he again noted the prominence of the various stacks and taller structures in the distance.

After this the ExA travelled to Church Lane (VP7) where the site was viewed against the backdrop of the Humber Refinery and the other nearby industrial development. The ExA noted the various other stacks and large structures visible in

views towards the site as well as the level of screening provided by the roadside hedgerow.

Following this, the ExA travelled to the junction of Skitter Road and Station Road (VP1) and viewed the site from PROW EHAL 74. Finally, the site itself was viewed up close from Rosper Road where the ExA observed the condition and appearance of the site and its surroundings including the neighbouring VPI CHP site.

Summary

- i. The ExA viewed the application site from a number of short and long-range public vantage points, located in all directions around the application site.
- ii. The ExA considers that he was able to obtain a good understanding of the site and surroundings, and the general character of the area.
- iii. The ExA considers that it is not necessary to visit these locations again and does not propose to do so unless specifically requested.

Rory Cridland

EXAMINING INSPECTOR