From:

Sent: 18 September 2019 11:21

To: Immingham OCGT < Immingham OCGT@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Cc:

Subject: VPI Immingham OCGT - EN010097 - NELC Local Impact Report and Signed Statement of

Common Ground Importance: High

Good Morning

Please find enclosed a copy of NELC's Local Impact Report and signed Statement of Common Ground.

Any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards, Lauren

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LOCAL IMPACT REPORT

SUBJECT: VPI IMMINGHAM OCGT PROJECT

APPLICANT: VPI IMMINGHAM B LTD

INTERESTED PARTY:

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

YOUR REF: EN010097

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Following a letter dated 15th August 2019, sent on behalf of the Examining Authority and setting out the examination timetable and procedure, North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) has given further consideration to the scheme and its implications. As the unitary Local Planning Authority, NELC is an interested party.
- 2. NELC is mindful that whilst part of the proposed development is within the borough of North East Lincolnshire, including the provision for the use of an existing gas pipeline, the majority of the works are respectively within the boundaries of the Council of North Lincolnshire.
- 3. The proposal would include the use of an existing pipeline which originates within the boundary of North East Lincolnshire. As with earlier projects of a comparable nature, once construction work is complete, there should be little or no visible evidence of the development.
- 4. There have been on-going discussions with VPI Immingham B Ltd (the applicant) as to possible implications of development through North East Lincolnshire. Following these discussions between the applicant and NELC, a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been signed.
- 5. On the basis that the terms of the SoCG are implemented in due course NELC does not at present anticipate a need to raise issues of principle or detail.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 6. The Development Plan is the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan (LP) adopted in March, 2018.
- 7. For the purposes of this application, copies of especially relevant LP policies are:
 - Policy 5 Development Boundaries
 - Policy 22 Well-designed Places

Policy 42 - Landscaping

- 8. These three policies are individually and collectively intended to ensure the amenity of the countryside and the businesses and people living and working there, together with the landscape and natural environment generally, are given proper consideration when decisions are being made. The North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013-2032 (Adopted 2018) outlines and supports that the borough functions as part of a wider functional economic area, and that the Humber Estuary is particularly promoted as the UK's energy estuary. They are considered compatible with the sustainability emphasis of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (NPPF).
- 9. In relation to energy developments, relevant paragraphs in the NPPF may be summarised:
 - Para 148: Planning is important in supporting the delivery of energy development and associated infrastructure.
 - Para 151 and 152: LPA's need to have a positive strategy to promote energy. Further, they need to design policies to maximise energy developments whilst ensuring that adverse effects are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts.
 - Para 154: LPA's should approve an application if its impacts are (or can be made) acceptable, always assuming that material considerations do not indicate otherwise.
- 10. Whilst building a strong and competitive economy and supporting a prosperous rural economy (Section 6) are clearly leading components of the NPPF approach to sustainable development, at the same time landscape and visual implications are expected to be taken into account when reaching decisions. Thus conserving and enhancing both the natural and historic environments (Sections 15 and 16) are also highlighted.

11. These strands of material considerations are summarised in the planning principles of the NPPF. These include ensuring a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, encouraging the use of renewable resources and helping to conserve the natural environment and heritage assets.

RELEVANT ISSUES

- 12. North East Lincolnshire Council supports the application by VPI Immingham B Ltd for VPI Immingham OCGT Project in that the development would potentially create further investment and jobs in North East Lincolnshire. This is welcomed fitting within the overall regeneration/economic development targets of the Council Partnership with meeting the Humber Estuary development energy focus.
- 13. NELC is pleased to note that no long term, adverse effects should result from the development and appropriate safeguarding controls are proposed through the draft DCO.
- 14. An Environmental Statement (ES) by the applicant indicates there should be no unduly adverse effects as a result of the project and the agreed SoCG outlines these details.
- 15. With regard to highway and air quality matters, the applicant and NELC have discussed these significantly, in particular with regards to construction traffic using the Pelham Road/Many Road junction. The applicant has confirmed that this would be visited and considered through the Construction Traffic Management Plan at a later date and would be a requirement of the DCO. Again, the agreed SoCG outlines these details, and this has also been accepted by the NELC Highways and Environmental Health Officers.

CONCLUSION

16.NELC supports the proposal and is content with the SoCG signed with the applicant. That being said, NELC will respond to any fresh questions or issues that may arise.