

VPI Immingham OCGT Project

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The Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order

Land at and in the vicinity of the existing VPI Immingham Power Station, South Killingholme, North Lincolnshire, DN40 3DZ

The Applicant's Response to the Local Impact Reports

Examination Deadline 3



Applicant: VPI Immingham B Ltd

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GLOSSARY

Abbreviation	Description
Abbreviation	Description
Access	Work No. 2 – access works comprising access to the OCGT
	Power Station Site and access to Work Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6;
Access Site	The land required for Work No.2.
AGI	Above Ground Installation – installations used to support the safe
	and efficient operation of the pipeline; above ground installations
	are needed at the start and end of a gas pipeline and at intervals
Applicant	along the route.
Applicant	VPI Immingham B Ltd
Application	The Application for a Development Consent Order made to the Secretary of State under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 in
	respect of the Proposed Development, required pursuant to
	Section 31 of the Planning Act 2008 because the Proposed
	Development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
	under Section 14(1)(a) and Section 15 of the Planning Act 2008
	by virtue of being an onshore generating station in England of
	more than 50 Megawatts electrical capacity.
Application	The documents that make up the Application (as defined above).
Documents	
CHP	Combined Heat and Power – A technology that puts to use the
	residual heat of the combustion process after generation of
	electricity that would otherwise be lost to the environment.
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan – a plan outlining
	measures to organise and control vehicular movement on a
	construction site so that vehicles and pedestrians using site
CWTP	routes can move around safely. Construction Workers Travel Plan – a plan managing and
CVVIP	promoting how construction workers travel to a particular area or
	organisation. It aims at promoting greener, cleaner travel choices
	and reducing reliance on the private car.
dB	decibel
DCO	A Development Consent Order made by the relevant Secretary of
	State pursuant to The Planning Act 2008 to authorise a Nationally
	Significant Infrastructure Project. A DCO can incorporate or
	remove the need for a range of consents which would otherwise



Abbreviation	Description
	be required for a development. A DCO can also include powers of
	compulsory acquisition.
EA	Environment Agency – a non-departmental public body sponsored
	by the United Kingdom government's Department for
	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), with
	responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the
	environment in England.
EH	English Heritage – (now Historic England) – a non-departmental
	public body of the British Government responsible for heritage
	protection and management of a range of historic properties.
EHO	Environmental Health Officer – practitioners responsible for
	carrying out measures for protecting public health, including
	administering and enforcing legislation related to environmental
	health.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment – a term used for the
	assessment of environmental consequences (positive or negative)
	of a plan, policy, program or project prior to the decision to move
	forward with the proposed action.
Electrical	The land required for Work No.5.
Connection Site	'
ES	Environmental Statement – a report in which the process and
	results of an Environmental Impact Assessment are documented.
Existing AGI	The exiting AGI within the Existing VPI CHP Site.
Existing AGI Site	The land comprising the exiting AGI within the Existing VPI CHP
	Site.
Existing Gas	An existing underground gas pipeline owned by VPI LLP
Pipeline	connecting the Existing AGI Site to an existing tie in the National
•	Grid (NG) Feeder No.9 located to the west of South Killingholme.
Existing Gas	The land comprising the Existing Gas Pipeline and a stand-off
Pipeline Site	either side of it.
Existing VPI CHP	The existing VPI Immingham Power Station. This facility is a gas-
Plant	fired combined heat and power ('CHP') plant near Immingham
	providing steam and electricity to the neighbouring refineries and
	electricity to the National Grid.
Existing VPI CHP	The land comprising the Existing VPI CHP Plant, located
Plant Site	immediately to the south of the Main OCGT Power Station Site.
Flood Zone 1	Land with an Annual Exceedance Probability of less than 0.1%
	risk from fluvial flooding.
Flood Zone 2	Land with an Annual Exceedance Probability of between 0.1%
	and 1% risk from fluvial flooding.
Flood Zone 3a	Land having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river
	flooding or land having a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of
	sea flooding.
Flood Zone 3b	An area defined as the functional floodplain, that the area where
	water has to flow or be stored in the event of a flood. Land which
	would flood with a 1 in 20 (5%) annual probability or greater in any
	year, or is designed to flood in a 0.1% event should provide the
	starting point for designation of Flood Zone 3b.



Abbreviation	Description	
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment – the formal assessment of flood risk	
	issues relating to the Proposed Development. The findings are	
	presented in an appendix to the Environmental Statement.	
Gas Connection	Work No. 4 – the new underground and overground gas pipeline	
Gas Connection Site	The land required for Work No.5.	
GCN	Great Crested Newts	
GW	Gigawatts – unit of power.	
HA	Highways Agency (now known as Highways England) –	
	government owned company responsible for managing the	
	strategic road network in England.	
ha	Hectare – unit of measurement.	
HE	Historic England – an executive non-departmental body of the	
	British Government tasked with protecting the historical	
	environment of England.	
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment – the assessment of the	
	impacts of implementing a plan or policy on a Natura 2000 site.	
km	Kilometre – unit of distance.	
Local Nature	A non-statutory site of local importance for wildlife, geology,	
Reserve or LNR	education or public enjoyment.	
LPA	Local Planning Authority	
LSE	Likely significant effect, a term used in the ES to describe when	
LOL	effects on a receptor are predicted to be significant	
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	
Lw	Sound Power Level	
LWS	Local Wildlife Site	
m	Metres – unit of distance.	
MW	Megawatts – unit of energy.	
NATA	New Approach to Appraisal	
NEILDB	North East Lincolnshire Local Drainage Board	
NELC	North East Lincolnshire Council	
NG	National Grid	
NGG		
NGET	National Grid Gas plc National Grid Electricity Transmission plc	
NLC	North Lincolnshire Council	
NPPF	The National Planning Policy Framework – Policy Framework	
	which was introduced in March 2012 and updated in July 2018.	
	The NPPF is part of the Government's reform of the planning	
	system intended to make it less complex, to protect the	
	environment and to promote sustainable growth. It does not	
	contain any specific policies on Nationally Significant	
	Infrastructure Projects but its policies may be taken into account in decisions on DCOs if the Secretary of State considers them to	
	in decisions on DCOs if the Secretary of State considers them to be both important and relevant.	
NPS	National Policy Statements – statements produced by	
INFO	Government under the Planning Act 2008 providing the policy	
	framework for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. They	
	include the Government's view of the need for and objectives for	
	the development of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects in	
	The development of ivationally orginicant infrastructure Projects III	



Abbreviation	Description
	a particular sector such as energy and are the primary matter
	against which applications for NSIPs are determined.
NSER	No Significant Effects Report – for the Habitats Regulations
	Assessment (HRA).
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project – Defined by the
	Planning Act 2008 and including projects relating to energy
	(including generating stations, electric lines and pipelines);
	transport (including trunk roads and motorways, airports, harbour
	facilities, railways and rail freight interchanges); water (dams and
	reservoirs, and the transfer of water resources); waste water
	treatment plants and hazardous waste facilities. These projects
	are only defined as nationally significant if they satisfy a statutory
	threshold in terms of their scale or effect. The Proposed
	Development is a NSIP.
NSRs	Noise Sensitive Receptors – locations or areas where dwelling
	units or other fixed, developed sites of frequent human use occur.
NTS	Non-Technical Summary – this document is a summary of the
	Environmental Statement written in non-technical language for
	ease of understanding.
OCGT	Open Cycle Gas Turbine – a combustion turbine plant fired by gas
0007.5	or liquid fuel to turn a generator rotor that produces electricity.
OCGT Power	Work No. 1 – an OCGT power station with a gross capacity of up
Station	to 299MW.
OCGT Power	The land required for Work No.1.
Station Site	Imminute on Onen Cyala Cas Typhina Orden
Order land	Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order
Order land	The area over which powers of compulsory acquisition or temporary possession are sought in the DCO, shown on the Land
	Plans. The Order land is the same area as the Project Land.
Order limits	The area in which consent to carry out works is sought in the
Order minis	DCO, the area is split into different Work Numbers which are set
	out Schedule 1 to the DCO and shown on the Works Plans. The
	Order limits is the same area as the Site .
PA 2008	Planning Act 2008. An Act which provides the need for and the
	powers to apply for and grant development consent orders
	('DCO') for nationally significant infrastructure projects ('NSIP').
PEA	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA Report – report
	establishing baseline conditions and evaluating the importance of
	any ecological features present.
PEI	Preliminary Environmental Information – an initial statement of the
	main environmental information available for the study area.
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report – a report outlining
	the preliminary environmental information and which is published
	during the pre-application consultation on a NSIP.
PHE	Public Health England – an executive agency, sponsored by the
	Department of Health, to protect and improve the nation's health
DINIO	and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.
PINS	Planning Inspectorate – executive agency of the Ministry of
	Housing, Communities and Local Government of the United
	Kingdom Government. It is responsible for examining applications



Abbreviation	Description
Abbieviation	for NSIPs, and reporting to the Secretary of State who makes a
	final decision on such applications.
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance – guidance expanding upon and
	supporting the NPPF.
Project Land	The land required for the Proposed Development (the Site) and
1 Tojoot Land	the land comprising the Existing Gas Pipeline Site. The Project
	Land is the same as the 'Order land' (in the DCO).
Proposed	The construction, operation and maintenance of a new gas-fired
Development	electricity generating station with a gross output capacity of up to
	299 MW, including electrical and gas supply connections, and
	other associated development.
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SAC	Special Area of Conservation – High quality conservation sites
	that are protected under the European Habitats Directive, due to
	their contribution to conserving those habitat types that are
	considered to be most in need of conservation.
SHBSES	South Humber Bank Strategic Employment Site
SINC	Site of Nature Conservation Interest
Site	The land required for the Proposed Development, and which is
	the same as the 'Order limits' (in the DCO).
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoS	The Secretary of State – the decision maker for DCO applications
	and head of a Government department. In this case the SoS for
	the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
	(formerly the Department for Energy and Climate Change).
SPA	Special Protection Area – strictly protected sites classified in
	accordance with Article 4 of the EC Birds Directive. Special
	Protection Areas are Natura 2000 sites which are internationally
	important sites for the protection of threatened habitats and
	species.
SSSI	Site of Specific Scientific Interest – nationally designated Sites of
	Special Scientific Interest, an area designated for protection under
	the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), due to its
OLUB C	value as a wildlife and/or geological site.
SUDS	Sustainable Urban Drainage System
SWMP	Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP)
TA TODA 1000	Transport Assessment
TCPA 1990	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) – the Act that
	regulates the majority of development of land in England and
	Wales, but which is not directly applicable to this proposed
Tomperant	development as it is a NSIP, regulated by the Planning Act 2008.
Temporary Construction and	Work No. 3 – temporary construction and laydown areas
Laydown	comprising hard standing, laydown and open storage areas, contractor compounds and staff welfare facilities, vehicle parking,
Layuowii	roadways and haul routes, security fencing and gates,
	gatehouses, external lighting and lighting columns. There are
	three construction and laydown areas included in the Application.
Temporary	Land Required for Work No. 3.
Construction and	Land Regulied for Work No. 5.
Laydown Site	
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Abbreviation	Description
TLOR	Total Lindsey Oil Refinery
UAEL	Unacceptable Observed Effect Level
Utilities and Services	Work No 6 – utilities and services connections to the OCGT
Connections	Power Station.
Utilities and Services	The land required for Work No.6 – the land required for the
Connections Site	utilities and services connections to the OCGT Power Station.
Vitol	Vitol Group – the owner of VPI LLP and VPIB.
VPIB	VPI Immingham B Limited – the Applicant
VPI EPA	VPI Energy Park A – the land proposed for the development of a 49.9 MW gas-fired power station that benefits from planning permission granted by NLC in 2018 (Reference: PA/2018/918).
VPI LLP	VPI Immingham LLP – the owner and operator of the Existing VPI CHP Plant.
WCA	The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – legislation for the
	protection of animals, plants and certain habitats in the UK.
WHO	World Health Organisation
Work No.1	An OCGT power station (the 'OCGT Power Station') with a gross capacity of up to 299MW.
Work No.2	Access works (the 'Access Site'), comprising access to the Main OCGT Power Station Site and access to Work Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6.
Work No.3	Temporary construction and laydown area (the 'Temporary Construction and Laydown) comprising hard standing, laydown and open storage areas, contractor compounds and staff welfare facilities, vehicle parking, roadways and haul routes, security fencing and gates, gatehouses, external lighting and lighting columns;
Work No.4	An underground and overground gas pipeline (the 'Gas Connection) of up to 600 mm (nominal internal diameter) for the transport of natural gas to Work No. 1.
Work No.5	An electrical connection (the 'Electrical Connection') of up to 400 kilovolts and control systems.
Work No.6	Utilities and services connections (the 'Utilities and Services Connections').
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation – a method statement or a project design to cover a suite of archaeological works for a site.



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of VPI Immingham B Ltd ('VPIB' or the 'Applicant'). It forms part of the application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (a 'DCO') submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008' (the 'PA 2008').
- 1.1.2 VPIB is seeking development consent for the construction, operation and maintenance of a new gas-fired electricity generating station with a gross output capacity of up to 299 megawatts ('MW'), including electrical and gas supply connections, and other associated development (the 'Proposed Development'). The Proposed Development is located primarily on land (the 'Site') to the north of the existing VPI Immingham Power Station, Rosper Road, South Killingholme, North Lincolnshire, DN40 3DZ.
- 1.1.3 A DCO is required for the Proposed Development as it falls within the definition and thresholds for a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (a 'NSIP') under section 14(1)(a) and sections 15(1) and 15(2) of the PA 2008. The DCO, if made by the SoS, would be known as the 'The Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order' (the 'Order').

1.2 VPI

- 1.2.1 VPI Immingham LLP ('VPI LLP') owns and operates the existing VPI Immingham Power Station, one of the largest combined heat and power ('CHP') plants in Europe, capable of generating 1,240 MW (about 2.5% of UK peak electricity demand) and up to 930 tonnes of steam per hour (hereafter referred to as the 'Existing VPI CHP Plant'). The steam is used by nearby oil refineries to turn crude oil into products, such as gasoline. The land comprising the Existing VPI CHP Plant is hereafter referred to as the 'Existing VPI CHP Plant Site'.
- 1.2.2 VPI LLP is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Vitol Group ('Vitol'), founded in 1966 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Since then Vitol has grown significantly to become a major participant in world commodity markets and is now the world's largest independent energy trader. Its trading portfolio includes crude oil, oil products, liquid petroleum gas, liquid natural gas, natural gas, coal, electricity, agricultural products, metals and carbon emissions. Vitol trades with all the major national oil companies, the integrated oil majors and independent refiners and traders. For further information on VPI LLP and Vitol please visit:

https://www.vpi-i.com/

1.2.3 VPIB has been formed as a separate entity for the purposes of developing and operating the Proposed Development.

1.3 The Site

1.3.1 The Site is primarily located on land immediately to the north of the Existing VPI CHP Plant Site, as previously stated. Immingham Dock is located approximately 1.5 kilometres ('km') to the south east of the Site at its closest point. The Humber ports



facility is located approximately 500 metres ('m') north and the Humber Refinery is located approximately 500m to the south.

- 1.3.2 The villages of South Killingholme and North Killingholme are located approximately 1.4 km and 1.6 km to the west of the Site respectively, and the town of Immingham is located approximately 1.8 km to the south east. The nearest residential property comprises a single house off Marsh Lane, located approximately 325 m to the east of the Site.
- 1.3.3 The Site comprises the following main parts:
 - OCGT Power Station Site;
 - Access Site;
 - Temporary Construction and Laydown Site;
 - Gas Connection Site;
 - Electrical Connection Site; and
 - Utilities and Services Connections Site.
- 1.3.4 The Site is located entirely within the boundary of the administrative area of North Lincolnshire Council ('NLC'), a unitary authority. The different parts of the Site are illustrated in the Works Plans (Application Document Ref: 4.3).
- 1.3.5 The Site has been selected by the Applicant for the Proposed Development, as opposed to other potentially available sites, for the following reasons:
 - it comprises primarily of previously developed or disturbed land, including land within the operational envelope of the Existing VPI CHP Plant Site;
 - it is situated in an industrial setting with few immediate receptors and is not particularly sensitive from an environmental perspective;
 - it is primarily located adjacent to the Existing VPI CHP Plant, which provides visual screening and synergies in terms of the existing workforce, and utilities and service connections:
 - it benefits from excellent grid connections (gas and electricity) on the Existing VPI CHP Plant Site; and
 - it benefits from existing highway accesses onto Rosper Road, with the latter providing a direct connection (via a short section of Humber Road) to the Strategic Highway Network (A160) a short distance to the south of the Site.
- 1.3.6 A more detailed description of the Site is provided in Environmental Statement ('ES') Volume 1 Chapter 3 'Site Description' (Application Document Ref: 6.2.3).

1.4 The Existing Gas Pipeline

1.4.1 In addition to the Site, the Application includes provision for the use of an existing gas pipeline (the 'Existing Gas Pipeline') to provide fuel to the Proposed Development. The Existing Gas Pipeline was originally constructed in 2003 to provide fuel to the



Existing VPI CHP Plant. The route of the pipeline runs from a connection point at an above ground installation (the 'Existing AGI Site') within the Existing VPI CHP Plant Site to a tie in point at the existing National Grid ('NG') Feeder No.9 pipeline located to the west of South Killingholme.

- 1.4.2 A small part of the Existing Gas Pipeline Site lies within the administrative area of North East Lincolnshire District Council ('NELC'), the neighbouring local authority.
- 1.4.3 The Applicant is not seeking consent to carry out any works to the Existing Gas Pipeline and, as a result, it does not form part of the Site or Proposed Development. It is included in the Application on the basis that the Applicant is seeking rights to use and maintain the pipeline and it is therefore included within the DCO 'Order land' (the area over which powers of compulsory acquisition or temporary possession are sought). The area of land covered by the Existing Gas Pipeline, including a 13 m stand-off either side of it to provide for access and any future maintenance requirements, is hereafter referred to as the 'Existing Gas Pipeline Site'.
- 1.4.4 The Site and the Existing Gas Pipeline Site are collectively referred to as the 'Project Land'. The area covered by the Project land is illustrated in the Location Plan (Application Document Ref: 4.1).
- 1.4.5 The Existing Gas Pipeline has not been assessed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') carried out in respect of the Application. This is on the basis that it is a pre-existing pipeline and the Applicant is not seeking consent to carry out any works to it. Further explanation in respect of this matter is provided in ES Volume 1, Chapter 1 'Introduction' and Chapter 3 'Site Description' (Application Document Refs: 6.2.1 and 6.2.3).

1.5 The Proposed Development

- 1.5.1 The main components of the Proposed Development are summarised below, as set out in the draft DCO (Application Document Ref: 2.1):
 - Work No. 1 an OCGT power station (the 'OCGT Power Station') with a gross capacity of up to 299MW;
 - Work No. 2 access works (the 'Access'), comprising access to the OCGT Power Station Site and access to Work Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6;
 - Work No. 3 temporary construction and laydown area ('Temporary Construction and Laydown') comprising hard standing, laydown and open storage areas, contractor compounds and staff welfare facilities, vehicle parking, roadways and haul routes, security fencing and gates, gatehouses, external lighting and lighting columns;
 - Work No. 4 gas supply connection works (the 'Gas Connection') comprising an underground and/or overground gas pipeline of up to 600 millimetres (nominal internal diameter) and approximately 800 m in length for the transport of natural gas from the Existing Gas Pipeline to Work No. 1;
 - Work No. 5 an electrical connection (the 'Electrical Connection') of up to 400 kilovolts and associated controls systems; and



- Work No 6 utilities and services connections (the 'Utilities and Services Connections').
- 1.5.2 It is anticipated that subject to the DCO having been made by the SoS and a final investment decision by VPIB, construction work on the Proposed Development would commence in early 2021. The overall construction programme is expected to last approximately 21 months and is anticipated to be completed in late 2022, with the Proposed Development entering commercial operation later that year or early the following year.
- 1.5.3 A more detailed description of the Proposed Development is provided at Schedule 1 'Authorised Development' of the draft DCO (Application Document Ref: 2.1) and ES Volume 1, Chapter 4 'The Proposed Development' (Application Document Ref: 6.2.4).
- 1.5.4 The areas within which each of the main components of the Proposed Development are to be built are shown by the coloured and hatched areas on the Works Plans (Application Document Ref: 4.3).

1.6 The purpose and structure of this document

- 1.6.1 The purpose of this report is to respond to the Local Impact Reports ('LIR') received from NELC and NLC. The Applicant's responses are set out in a tabulated format, with the LIR text in one column and the Applicant's response in the next.
- 1.6.2 The remainder of this report is structured as follows:
 - Chapter 2 North East Lincolnshire Council LIR; and
 - Chapter 3 North Lincolnshire Council LIR.



2.0 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL LIR

2.1.1 This section sets out the Applicant's response to the Local Impact Report received from North East Lincolnshire Council. See Table 2.1 on the following pages.



Table 2.1 – Applicant's responses to North East Lincolnshire Council's LIR

North Ea	ast Lincolnshire Council LIR	Applicant's Response
INTROD		The Applicant notes that NELC supports the proposal and is
1.	Following a letter dated 15 th 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.	content with the SoCG signed with the applicant.
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	



North East Lincolnshire Council LIR	Applicant's Response
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	



North East Lincolnshire Council LIR	Applicant's Response
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.	



3.0 NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL LIR

3.1.1 This section sets out the Applicant's response to the Local Impact Report received from North Lincolnshire Council. See Table 3.1 on the following pages.



Table 3.1 – Applicant's responses to North Lincolnshire Council's Local Impact Report

North Lincolnshire Council LIR	Our Response
1.0 INTRODUCTION	Not applicable.
1.1 This report has been prepared by North Lincolnshire Council in accordance with the advice and requirements set out in the Planning Act 2008 and Advice Note One: Local Impact Reports (Version 2) issued by the Infrastructure Planning Commission in April 012.	
1.2 The Advice Note states that a Local Impact Report (LIR) is a 'Report in writing giving detail of the likely impact of the proposed development on the authority's area'.	
1.3 The Advice Note states that when the Commission decides to accept an application it will ask the relevant local authorities to prepare a LIR. Its preparation should be prioritised and indicate where the local authority considers the development would have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the area. The Report may include any topics that they consider to be relevant to the impact of the development on their area as a means by which their existing body of knowledge and evidence on local issues can be fully and robustly reported to the Commission.	
1.4 The Advice Note indicates that topics addressed in the Local Impact Report may include:	
Details of the proposal;Relevant planning history and any issues arising;	
 Relevant development plan policies, supplementary planning guidance or documents, development briefs or approved master plans and an appraisal of their relationship and relevance to the proposals; 	
 Relevant development proposals under consideration or granted permission but not commenced or completed; 	
 Local area characteristics such as urban and landscape qualities and nature conservation sites; 	



North Lincolnshire Council LIR	Our Response
Local transport patterns and issues;	
Site and area constraints;	
Designated sites;	
Socio-economic and community matters;	
 Consideration of the impact of the proposed provisions and requirements within the draft Order in respect of all of the above; 	
Development consent obligations and their impact on the local authority's area.	
1.5 The Local Impact Report may also comment on the development consent obligations and the requirements and also any relevant representations.	
1.6 In producing the LIR the council has not sought the views of local parish councils and local interest groups because the parish councils and other local groups have the opportunity, through the consultation process, to make their observations direct to the Planning Inspectorate.	
1.7 The LIR is intended to be used by the local authority as a means by which the existing body of local knowledge and evidence on local issues is fully and robustly reported to the appointed Examining Authority.	
1.8 Set out below is the LIR of North Lincolnshire Council. It identifies the most relevant policies and the main issues that concern this Council.	
2.0 POLICY FRAMEWORK	The Applicant agrees with the NLC's description of the planning policy framework (and its
2.1 Local Historical Background	background), as applicable to the Proposed Development. The Applicant welcomes NLC's
2.1.1 The proposed VPI OCGT Project site lies within an area that has a long history of	confirmation that it has no objections to the
allocation for port related and energy generating development within Development Plans.	Proposed Development on planning policy
Previous Development Plans (listed below) have recognised the potential for extending	grounds.
Immingham and Grimsby Ports northwards on to a large flat area of land adjacent a deep	
water channel of the Humber Estuary to enable additional port related development,	



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including the chemical and power industries which require a more isolated location away from the main urban areas.	our response
 County Development – County of Lincoln – Parts of Lindsey (1955). Lindsey Report – March 1965. Humberside Structure Plan (Approved (March 1979). Humberside Structure Plan Interim Policies for the South Humber Bank Industry Area (October 1982). Humberside Structure Plan (Approved) (July 1987) (Explanatory Memorandum – March 1988). Humberside Structure Plan – Replacement (Consultation Draft) (January 1994). East Glanford Local Plan (Consultation Draft) (September 1994). Regional Planning Guidance 2001. Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber (2008). 	
2.1.2 Current Development Plans have continued to support the South Humber Bank allocation in the North Lincolnshire Local Plan – saved policies (Adopted 2003), the North Lincolnshire Core Strategy (adopted June 2011) and the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (adopted 2016).	
2.2 National Policy Statements	
2.2.1 In accordance with Section 104 of the Planning Act 2008, in determining applications for development consent decision makers must have regard to: (a) any national policy statement which has effect in relation to development of the description to which the application relates; (aa) the appropriate marine policy documents (if any), determined in accordance with section 59 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009; (b) any local impact report submitted to the Secretary of State before the deadline specified in a notice under section 60(2);	
(c) any matters prescribed in relation to development of the description to which the application relates; and	



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(d) any other mattes which the Secretary of State thinks are both important and relevant	Cui Nosponio
to the Secretary of State's decision.	
Paragraph 4.1.5 of the Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (NPS EN-1) clarifies that along with NPS'S:	
"Other matters that the IPC (now replaced by the Planning Inspectorate) may consider	
both important and relevant to its decision-making may include Development Plan	
Documents or other documents in the Local Development Framework. In the event of a	
conflict between these or any other documents and an NPS, the NPS prevails for the purposes of NID decision making given the national significance of the infrastructure."	
purposes of the decision making given the national digitilicance of the infrastructure.	
2.2.2 The overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (NPS EN-1) sets out the	
Government's energy policy, and explains the need for new energy infrastructure and	
instructs the Planning Inspectorate on how to assess the impacts of energy infrastructure	
development in general. It sets out the urgency for new energy infrastructure and	
provides that the Secretary of State should start with a presumption in favour of granting a Development Consent Order (DCO) for energy Nationally Significant Infrastructure	
Projects unless any more specific and relevant policies set out within the NPS's clearly	
indicate that consent should be refused; or that Section 104 of the Planning Act 2008	
applies. Section 104 states that an application for energy infrastructure must be decided	
in accordance with the relevant NPS's except where in doing so it would cause one or	
more of the following:	
 Lead to the UK being in breach of its international obligations; 	
Be in breach of any statutory duty that applies to the Secretary of State;	
Be unlawful;	
Result in adverse impacts from the development outweighing the benefits; or	
Be contrary to regulations about how decisions are to be taken.	
2.2.3 In considering proposals, and particularly when weighing up adverse impacts and	
benefits, the Secretary of State should take in to account the proposals:	
Potential benefits, including its contribution to meeting the need for energy	
infrastructure, job creation and any long-term or wider benefits; and	



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 Potential adverse impacts, including any long-term and cumulative adverse impacts, as well as any measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for any adverse impacts. 	
2.2.4 National Policy Statement for Fossil Fuel Electricity Generating Infrastructure (NPS EN-2) specifically relates to fossil fuel generating stations. It states "Fossil fuel generating stations play a vital role in providing reliable electricity supplies and a secure and diverse energy mix as the UK makes the transition to a low carbon economy".	
2.2.5 National Policy Statement for Gas Supply Infrastructure and Gas and Oil Pipelines (NPS EN-4) provides guidance on the assessment of applications for new gas and oil pipelines. Key technology specific considerations for gas pipelines include proximity to sensitive land uses when planning routes; pipeline safety; noise and vibration; biodiversity; landscape and visual; water quality and resources; and soils and geology.	
2.2.6 National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (NPS EN-5) outline the principles on which the Secretary of State will apply to the consideration of applications for new electricity transmission lines as well as associated infrastructure, such as substations. Considerations to be take into account include biodiversity and geological conservation, landscape and visual, noise and vibration and the impacts of electric and magnetic fields.	
2.3 National Planning Policy Framework	
2.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are to be applied. Paragraph 5 of the NPPF makes it clear that the document does not contain specific policies for NSIP's and that NSIP applications should be determined in accordance with the decision making framework set out in the Planning Act 2008 and relevant NPS's, as well as other matters that are considered both important and relevant. Paragraph 5 clarifies that matters considered both important and relevant to NSIP's may include the NPPF.	



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2.3.2 Paragraph 7 of the NPPF recognises the purpose of the planning system as contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. Paragraph 8 goes on to identify three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. Paragraph 9 goes on to stress that these three roles are mutually	
dependent and should not be undertaken in isolation. The NPPF also introduces a presumption in favour of sustainable development.	
2.3.3 The following sections of the NPPF are considered to be relevant to the consideration of this application:	
Promoting healthy and safe communities;	
Promoting sustainable transport; A chicking youll decima ad places.	
 Achieving well-designed places; Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change; 	
 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment; and 	
Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.	
 2.3.4 The policies contained within the NPPF are expanded upon and supported by the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). The sections of the PPG most relevant to the consideration of this application are: Air Quality; Climate Change; 	
Design;	
Environmental Impact Assessment;	
Flood Risk and Coastal Change;	
Historic Environment;	
Land affected by contamination; Light Pollution:	
Light Pollution;Natural Environment;	
Noise; and	
Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements.	
2.4 Development Plan	



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2.4.1 The current Development Plan for North Lincolnshire comprises the saved policies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2003); the North Lincolnshire Core Strategy (2011); and the North Lincolnshire Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (2016).	
2.4.2 The Development Plan policies relevant to the consideration of this application are set out below.	
2.4.3 North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2003):	
 IN1 – Industrial Development Location and Uses; IN3 – Industrial and Commercial Development in the Urban Area, Principal Growth Settlements, South Humber Bank (including North Killingholme Airfield) and Humberside International Airport; RD2 – Development in the Open Countryside; T1 – Location of Development; T2 – Access to Development; T18 – Traffic Management; T19 – Car Parking Provision & Standards; LC1 – Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar Sites; 	
 LC2 – Sites of Scientific Interest and National Nature Reserves; LC5 – Species Protection; LC7 – Landscape Protection; LC12 – Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows; LC20 – South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative; 	
 HE5 – Development affecting Listed Buildings; HE9 – Archaeological Excavation; M23 – Oil and Gas Production; DS1 – General Requirements; DS7 – Contaminated Land; 	



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DS12 – Light Pollution;	
 DS13 – Groundwater Protection and Land Drainage; 	
 DS14 – Foul Sewage and Surface Water Drainage; 	
DS15 – Water Resources; and	
DS16 – Flood Risk.	
2.4.4 North Lincolnshire Core Strategy (2011):	
CS1 – Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire;	
CS2 – Delivering More Sustainable Development;	
CS5 – Delivering Quality Design in North Lincolnshire;	
CS6 – Historic Environment;	
CS11 – Provision and Distribution of Employment Land;	
CS12 – South Humber Bank Strategic Employment Site;	
CS16 – North Lincolnshire's Landscape, Greenspace and Waterscape;	
• CS17 – Biodiversity;	
CS18 – Sustainable Resource Use and Climate Change;	
CS19 – Flood Risk;	
CS20 – Sustainable Waste Management;	
CS25 – Promoting Sustainable Transport; and	
CS26 – Strategic Transport Infrastructure Proposals.	
2.4.5 North Lincolnshire Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan	
Document:	
SHBE-1 – South Humber Bank.	
2.4.6 The site falls within Employment Land Allocation SHBE-1. This policy allocates 900	
hectares of land for B1, B2 and B8 port related activities to take special advantage of the	
location within an existing port environment, flat topography and being adjacent to an	
existing deep water channel of the Humber Estuary.	
2.5 Planning Policy Overview	
2.5 Planning Policy Overview	



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2.5.1 In the opinion of the local planning authority the VPI OCGT Project proposal generally complies with Development Plan Policy and therefore the local planning authority has no objections to the proposed development on planning policy grounds.	
3.0 Pre-application Consultation 3.1 North Lincolnshire Council has previously expressed the opinion that it has no objection to the degree of community consultation undertaken and that this consultation has been undertaken as required by Sections 42, 47 & 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended). 4.0 Landscape and visual impact 4.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of the landscape and visual impacts and the potential cumulative impact of this proposed development. This is included in 6.2.10 – ES Chapter 10. The representative viewpoints set out in table 10.3 have been discussed with and agreed by North Lincolnshire Council, as have the study areas in respect of visual effects (5km) and landscape effects (2km). having considered this North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that the submitted assessment can be relied upon as a reasoned explanation of the potential impacts of the proposed development. 4.2 The site is located within an area that is characterised by significant industrial development, including energy generation, oil refineries and port related activities of comparable and larger scale than the proposed development. It is therefore agreed that the proposed development would not be out of keeping with the existing character of the area. 4.3 Tables 10.5 and 10.7 provide a summary of landscape and visual effects respectively. No significant landscape or visual impacts are identified; however there will be local impacts that are not regarded as significant for the purposes of an environmental assessment. These impacts are identified within the assessment; the most significant of which arise out of the introduction of a stack with a height of 56m AOD and the turbine	The Applicant notes that NLC have no objection to the degree of community consultation undertaken and its confirmation that the consultation has been undertaken as required by Sections 42, 47 & 48 of the Planning Act 2008. The Applicant notes that NLC is of the opinion that it is unlikely that there will be any significant adverse or positive impacts arising from the proposal in respect of landscape character and visual amenity. The Applicant notes NLC's comments on Requirement 6 of the draft DCO and confirms that the details in question can be agreed with NLC at detailed design stage and submission of the Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan for approval.



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hall within the landscape. These elements of the proposed development will be visible over long distance views.	
4.4 The draft DCO is subject to Requirement 5, which requires the approval of the local planning authority of the detailed design of the buildings and structures on site, including siting, layout, scale and external appearance. Enhancement is also proposed in the form of hedge and tree planting to the periphery of the site. Whilst Requirement 6 of the draft DCO does make reference to planting in respect of biodiversity enhancement it is noted that no Requirement is proposed that requires the submission of a detailed landscaping scheme for agreement. This is something that should be considered to ensure that the visual intrusion of the buildings and the impact on visual amenity in the locality is minimised as far as reasonably practicable.	
4.5 Given the height of the proposed stack and the scale and mass of the proposed development it is not feasible to eliminate the visual impacts of the development and as such there will be residual effects in this regard. Despite this fact it must be noted that this location already supports substantial industrial developments which contribute significantly to the character of the area.	
4.6 In conclusion the Council is of the opinion that it is unlikely that there will be any significant adverse or positive impacts arising from the proposal in respect of landscape character and visual amenity.	
5.0 Traffic and transport	The Applicant notes that NLC confirms that the Transport Assessment demonstrates that the
5.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential traffic and transport effects of the proposed development. This is set out in 6.2.7 – ES Chapter 7 and includes the Transport Assessment and framework Construction Phase Traffic Management Plan and Construction Workers Framework Travel Plan.	existing highway network and site accesses currently operate within capacity; and that the assessment demonstrates that any increase of traffic during the construction phase of the Proposed Development can be accommodated
5.2 North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that the Transport Assessment demonstrates that the existing highway network, site accesses and Manby Road roundabout are currently operating within capacity.	within existing capacity, even in the case of any overlap with the construction phases of the



North Lincolnshire Council LIR	Our Response
5.3 Most of the movements generated by the proposed development will be during the construction phase and as such their impact will be temporary. Long-term impacts during operation area significantly reduced due to the relatively small number of movements	North Killingholme Power Project and the Able Marine Energy Park.
generated by this phase and will result in negligible impact.	The Applicant also notes that NLC have no road safety concerns about the proposal and that
5.4 Whilst there will be an increase in traffic during the construction phase, it will not be excessive and can be accommodated on the existing highway network. The Transport Assessment has assumed a worst case scenario, whereby the construction phase for this proposed development will overlap with the construction periods for the North Killingholme Power Project and Able Marine Energy Park. It is demonstrated that even if this were to occur, the existing highway network will continue to operate satisfactorily.	they have reviewed the submitted Construction Phase Traffic Management Plan and consider it to be acceptable.
5.5 The Construction Workers Framework Travel Plan is aimed at minimising the number of single occupancy car trips. Given the nature of the work and the fact the majority of workers are not likely to be local it is anticipated that car sharing and the provision of works mini-buses to pick up/drop off workers will be the most practical options. The Council would expect to see sufficient off-road parking to be provided for workers and would not want to see ad-hoc parking on the adjacent highway network. Whilst walking and cycling may be an option for a small number of workers, the lack of safe facilities coupled with the volume and type of traffic on the adjacent road network should be considered if promoting this as a feasible means of travel.	
5.6 It is not anticipated that the proposed development will exacerbate an existing accident problem and therefore the Council has no road safety concerns about the proposal.	
5.7 The submitted Construction Phase Traffic Management Plan has been reviewed and is considered to be acceptable.	
6.0 Biodiversity and ecology	The Applicant notes that NLC are of the view that subject to the acceptable discharge of
6.1 Scope of comments	requirement 7 of the Draft DCO the development



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- 6.1.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential ecological effects of the proposed development. This is set out in 6.2.9 ES Chapter 9.
- 6.1.2 The Local Impact Report focuses primarily on those local impacts that may not be addressed by statutory consultees. Effects on the internationally important Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site are not covered in detail in this report as the Planning Inspectorate is the Competent Authority and Natural England is the Nature Conservation Adviser.
- 6.1.3 North Lincolnshire Council has commented in detail at the pre-application stage, on the Scoping Report and the PEIR. Most of the comments made previously appear to have bene considered by the applicant and incorporated into the project design, mitigation proposals and the draft requirements in the Development Consent Order.
- 6.2 Humber Estuary SSSI, SAC, SPA, RAMSAR
- 6.2.1 The applicant appears to have provided all the information reasonably required for the Planning Inspectorate, as competent authority in this case, to determine whether there will be a likely significant effect on the Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and/or Ramsar site.
- 6.2.2 Based on the information provided in the "No Significant Effects Report" (document ref: 5.10) the following is agreed:
- 1. North Lincolnshire Council does not consider that the plan or project is directly connected with, or necessary to, the management of the Humber Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site or Humber Estuary Special Conservation Area (SAC) for nature conservation.
- 2. North Lincolnshire Council is of the opinion that the plan or project is not likely to have a significant effect alone or in combination with other plans and projects on the Humber Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site.
- 3. North Lincolnshire Council is of the opinion that the plan or project is not likely to have a significant effect alone or in combination with other plans and projects on the Humber

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will ultimately achieve a neutral or minor positive impact on ecological receptors.

The Applicant also notes NLC's comments on draft DCO Requirement 6 and confirms that the details in question can be agreed with NLC at detailed design stage and submission of the Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan for approval.



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Estuary Special Conservation Area (SAC). The Council considers the overall effect on the features of the Humber Estuary designated sites to be neutral.	•
6.3 Protected and priority species and habitats	
6.3.1 A preliminary ecological appraisal has been carried out, and the applicant has carried out further ecological surveys as appropriate. They have also made use of data search results from the Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre. North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that the survey methods used and the survey effort deployed are appropriate for the site in question.	
6.3.2 The surveys identified no evidence of otters, great crested newts, reptiles or badgers. Any impacts on breeding or wintering birds are not likely to be significant.	
6.3.3 The surveys did reveal open mosaic habitats (OMH) of district value, supporting key invertebrate species of county importance. The OMH is a habitat of principal importance and around 1.03ha of this habitat will be lost.	
6.3.4 Appropriate measures have been proposed to take account of the potential for construction-phase impacts on water voles and breeding birds. Assuming the proposed approach to mitigation and enhancement is followed through the Requirements of the draft Order then the Council considers the overall effect on protected or priority species to be neutral or minor positive.	
6.4 Biodiversity enhancement	
6.4.1 North Lincolnshire Council encourages development that not only mitigates harm to wildlife but also provides biodiversity enhancement. This commitment is reflected in policy CS17 of the North Lincolnshire Core Strategy and through the NPPF.	
6.4.2 For this proposal, biodiversity enhancement should be secured by using locally native trees, shrubs and wildflowers for landscaping, by incorporating wetland habitats	



North Linealnahira Council LID	Our Pagnance
North Lincolnshire Council LIR into any drainage features required and by implementing any mitigation and enhancement measures for water voles may also be of value.	Our Response
6.4.3 Section 9.10 of the Ecology chapter of the submitted environmental statement sets out appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures, which should be secured by appropriate DCO requirements. The proposals include the creation and management of an area of OMH equal to or greater than the area lost. Biodiversity enhancement is to be sought through creation of OMH habitat of a higher value than that to be lost.	
6.4.4 Assuming the measures set out in section 9.10 of the Ecology chapter of the submitted environmental statement area carried out in full, then the Council considers the overall effect on biodiversity to be neutral or minor positive.	
6.4.5 The draft DCO Requirement 6 does not set out the detail of what is necessary for the requirement to be discharged. Therefore, it will be essential for the applicant, or successor in title, to refer back to our comments and the Environmental Statement in order to put forward acceptable avoidance, mitigation and enhancement measures. In turn, we will need to refer back to previous correspondence to be clear about what is required. If possible it would be easier for both parties if the requirement set out what is needed. 6.4.6 In conclusion North Lincolnshire Council are of the view that subject to the acceptable discharge of requirement 7 of the Draft DCO the development will ultimately achieve a neutral or minor positive impact on ecological receptors.	
7.0 Cultural heritage	An updated Framework WSI was submitted to and agreed by NLC on 3 October 2019. The
7.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development on heritage assets. This is set out in 6.2.13 – ES Chapter 13.	agreed WSI has been updated so that it makes adequate provision relating to the proposed strip, map and record exercise and preserving assets in-situ, amongst other things.
7.2 The applicant consulted the council's Historic Environment Record Officer on the proposed development during the pre-application stage. The HER has provided detailed advice on the Scoping Opinion, the PEIR, and for the Statement of Common Ground.	We are not proposing any changes to the wording of Requirement 13. This has been



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The applicant has heeded much of this advice, though there remain specific issues to be resolved.

- 7.3 Paragraph 13.2.26 of the ES states that the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (Ref 13-4) has three saved policies relating to heritage; HE2, HE5 and HE8. There are in fact four saved policies, the missing policy is HE9 Archaeological Evaluation.
- 7.4 Local Plan policy HE9 is the most relevant to the non-designated heritage assets affected by this proposed development, in particular the second half of the policy. The policy states:

"Where development proposals affect sites of known or suspected archaeological importance, an archaeological assessment to be submitted prior to the determination of a planning application will be required. Planning permission will not be granted without adequate assessment of the nature, extent and significance of the remains present and the degree to which the proposed development is likely to affect them. Sites of known archaeological importance will be protected. When development affecting such sites is acceptable in principle, mitigation of damage must be ensured and the preservation of the remains in situ is a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, the developer will be required to make adequate provision for excavation and recording before and during development."

- 7.5 North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that there is no adverse impact on the significance of the assessed designated heritage assets, including the contribution of their settings.
- 7.6 The proposed development will directly impact two non-designated heritage assets comprising areas of archaeological remains.
- 7.7 The first of these non-designated assets is within the Main OCGT site and comprises Iron Age ditches peripheral to the Iron Age settlement site excavated on the site of the CHP plant to the south (ES Figure 13.1, sites A17 and A6; Document Ref. 6.3.21).

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agreed in the Statement of Common Ground with NLC submitted for Deadline 3 (Document Ref 8.1). Revised wording has instead been added to Requirement 14 and further detail added to the Framework WSI.



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7.8 Previous archaeological evaluation in 2006 identified these ditches. Soil mounded over this area from an adjacent development site has precluded further archaeological evaluation of the Main Site. Archaeological monitoring of the geotechnical ground investigations across the Main Site did take place but the extent of overburden largely comprised the archaeological observations (ES Appendix 13D Archaeology Report; Document Ref. 6.4.30). The heritage significance of the remains within the Main Site is their archaeological evidential value, and the potential of these and any associated remains to contribute to the understanding of the wider Iron Age settlement of this area.	
7.9 The second non-designated asset is located within the temporary construction and laydown area running alongside Rosper Road (Work no.3). This comprises an area of Romano-British settlement features preserved in situ when the CHP plant was constructed.	
7.10 These features are associated with the excavated Romano-British settlement site (ES Figure 13.1, site A6, Document Ref. 6.3.21). The preserved area is shown on ES Figure 13.4; Document Ref. 6.3.24. These preserved remains have high evidential value to contribute to the understanding of the character and development over time of the wider Romano-British settlement across this landscape.	
7.11 Without mitigation, the construction of the proposed development would result in the destruction of these archaeological sites, amounting to substantial harm to their significance. Accordingly, the applicant is proposing mitigation for both archaeological sites. On the Main Site this would comprise a programme of archaeological strip map and record. For the construction and laydown area, continued preservation in situ of the buried remains free from the adverse effects of development is proposed.	
7.12 The LPA considers that these mitigation proposals are appropriate to the significance of the heritage assets, however, in order to be satisfied that the provisions made are adequate and can be successfully implemented, it is necessary that more detail is provided.	



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7.13 The applicant has submitted a Framework outline Written Scheme of Investigation for a programme of archaeological strip, map and record excavation prior to the development of the Main Site (ES Appendix 13E; Document Ref: 6.4.31). This is to secure the preservation by record of the known and potential archaeological remains within the Main Site. To ensure that an adequate archaeological record of the heritage significance is achievable, the LPA considers that the archaeological work must be undertaken prior to the construction work commencing, and that this is not a suitable project to be carried out during the construction work.	•
7.14 The Framework WSI is not clear enough in this respect and contains contradictions relating to the timing of when the archaeological strip map and record would take place. The WSI should provide a timescale for the advance archaeological excavation that demonstrates sufficient time to complete the archaeological site work prior to handover to the Main Contractor. Such revision of this and a number of other issues with the WSI should be could be rapidly resolved during the Examination period.	
7.15 With regard the proposed archaeological preservation in situ area within the construction and laydown area, the ES documents contain insufficient detail about how this area will be adequately protected during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development.	
7.16 The use of this part of the site as a temporary construction and laydown area could have direct impact on the archaeological remains preserved in situ (hard standing, laydown and open storage areas, contractor compounds and staff welfare facilities, vehicle parking, roadways and haul routes, security fencing and gates, gatehouses, external lighting and lighting columns).	
7.17 Mitigation measures to prevent any such damage will need to include robust permanent fencing and signposting around this area. These details should provided in writing either combined with Framework WSI for the archaeological work on the Main Site, or as a separate written strategy. It is also important that the archaeological preservation area is clearly identified in the CEMP with an explanation of why and how	



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this area is to be protected and monitored, and how this will be communicated to all those working on site.	Cur responds
7.18 There is concern in respect of Draft DCO Requirement 13. This relates to Clause 2, which requires a detailed WSI to be in accordance with the framework WSI. As it currently stands, the framework WSI is not considered to be acceptable unacceptable for the reasons outlined above and unless revised, any detailed scheme may not obtain the LPA's approval.	
7.19 North Lincolnshire Council also believes that there should be more specific wording the requirement to secure the archaeological preservation in situ area. This should specify the requirement for fencing around the perimeter of the protected area and include the submission of fencing detail for the prior approval of the LPA. Such requirement should provide no less protection than the planning conditions secured by the previous consents for the CHP plant.	
7.20 Where the archaeological strategies and WSIs for the Main Site and preservation in situ area can be agreed with the LPA prior to the determination of the DCO, the wording of Requirement 13 could be amended to secure the implementation of the strategy in accordance with these documents.	
8.0 Noise and vibration	The Applicant notes NLC's confirmation that any construction noise and vibration effects can be
8.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of noise and vibration. This is set out in 6.2.8 – ES Chapter 18.	adequately controlled through the submission and approval of the CEMP (Requirement 14).
8.2 Noise from the construction and from the operation of the installation has the potential	An operational noise limit (Rating Level) based on +5 dB above then Background Sound Level
to cause a disturbance to local residents. The nearest residential property is Hazeldene,	is intended to avoid 'significant adverse impacts'
Marsh Road approximately 650m to the east of the proposed development.	as defined by BS 4142, in accordance with our EIA methodology. Nonetheless, the Applicant
8.3 The proposed development will operate intermittently, however it will be permanently	has considered comments made by NLC's
on standby and available at all times. It is most likely to run during periods of low	Environmental Health Officer and Requirement



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electricity supply or high demand on the transmission network or when required to provide technical services to support the National Grid. The plant could run for long periods, at any time of day, up to the maximum allowed under its Environmental Permit.

- 8.4 Draft DCO Requirement 14 requires the submission and approval of a Construction Environmental Management Plan. North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirement 14 construction noise will be satisfactorily controlled and mitigated.
- 8.5 Operational noise has the potential to cause a disturbance to local residents. Draft DCO Requirement 19 includes a restriction on operational noise level to no more than 5dB above background sound levels. The Council's Environmental Health Officer recommends that Requirement 19 should impose an operational noise restriction not in excess of 3dB above background sound levels in order to provide adequate protection of residential amenity.

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- 19 has been amended to include the following wording:
- (4) The scheme submitted pursuant to subparagraph (1) must include a report setting out the extent to which the undertaker is able to achieve a noise level which is 2dB lower than the limit set out in sub-paragraph (3).

The approach adopted for the changes to the wording of Requirement 19 is similar to that accepted by the SoS in relation to the Eggborough DCO.

9.0 Air quality

- 9.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of air quality. This is set out in 6.2.6 ES Chapter 6 and 6.2.17 ES Chapter 17.
- 9.2 All three elements of construction, operation and decommissioning of the project will have the potential to generate air emissions and thus impact on local air quality. North Lincolnshire Council agrees with the main potential sources of pollutants and the description of sensitive receptors identified within ES Chapter 6.
- 9.3 The impacts on dust soiling, human health and ecology during earthworks, construction and track out have been considered in accordance with IAQM Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction. The risk assessment indicates that there would be a low risk of dust soiling impacts, human health impacts (PM10) and ecological impacts from unmitigated earthworks, construction and track out activities.

The Applicant notes that that NLC confirms that the construction phase air quality impacts can be adequately controlled through the submission and approval of the CEMP (Requirement 14).

The Applicant also notes that NLC deem the impact on local air quality due to additional traffic generated during the operational phase to be insignificant. Predicted operational emissions from the Proposed Development are considered negligible and not in breach of National Air Quality objectives.

It is also noted that NLC are of the view that decommissioning phase air quality impacts will be satisfactorily controlled and mitigated, subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirement 24.



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9.4 Draft DCO Requirement 14 requires the submission and approval of a Construction Environmental Management Plan. An acceptable Framework CEMP has been provided as part of the application. North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirement 14 construction phase air quality impacts will be satisfactorily controlled and mitigated.	
9.5 The predicted vehicle movements during the construction phase are detailed within ES Chapter 7: Traffic and Transport. Table 6.17 and 6.18 present the summary information as a result of the construction phase road modelling. Further information in relation to long and short term modelled outcomes for NO2 from construction traffic can be found in Table 6A.13-17. North Lincolnshire Council agrees with the conclusion that in relation to construction traffic the magnitude of the change in pollutant concentrations on the road network is predicted to be imperceptible for all pollutants at all human health receptor locations. Impacts from the construction phase will be further managed with the introduction of the Construction Workers Travel Plan as mentioned in the Transport Assessment.	
9.6 Operational emission from the Proposed Development would be controlled through the Environmental Permitting regime that is regulated by the Environment Agency ('EA'). This would require the Applicant to undertake an assessment of Best Available Techniques ('BAT') for the selected generation technology. The BAT Assessment would, in part, need to demonstrate that the Proposed Development would not exceed air quality strategy objectives.	
9.7 The proposed stack heights for the proposed development has been optimised following screening modelling followed by detailed dispersion modelling and assessment to identify the appropriate stack height. The report concludes that a stack height of 45m is optimum to allow adequate dispersion of emissions.	
9.8 The maximum short- term predicted concentrations at the worst affected human health receptor for NO2 and CO have been provided in Table 6.19. The long- term NO2 predicted concentrations at human health receptors have been provided in Table 6.20. It is predicted that the operation of the proposed development will have a negligible impact	



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on both the short and long term concentrations and will not result in a breach of National Air Quality Objectives. The Council's Environmental Health Officer agrees with these conclusions.	
9.9 Predicted vehicle movements during the operational phase is expected to peak at 15 one-way LGV movements and a maximum of 3 one-way HGV movements. Therefore it is agreed that there is no requirement for a detailed assessment of operational road traffic. Therefore the impact on local air quality due to additional traffic generated during the operational phase is deemed to be insignificant.	
9.10 The impact of decommissioning is likely to be comparable, or less than, those assessed for the construction phase. Draft DCO Requirement 24 requires the submission and agreement of a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan. Subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirement 24 decommissioning phase air quality impacts will be satisfactorily controlled and mitigated.	
10.0 Land contamination 10.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of contaminated land. This is set out in 6.2.11 – ES Chapter 11. 10.2 The Phase 1 Geo-Environmental Assessments identifies that the previous use of the site presents a potential risk of contamination which may pose a risk to construction workers and future site users. Any contamination may also be mobilised during construction of the development and pose a risk to controlled waters. The conceptual site model (CSM) assess the risks to receptors as moderate to low. 10.3 A subsequent site investigation including soil sampling, and ground gas and water monitoring was undertaken to assess ground conditions present on site. Ground conditions were identified as made ground (0.2-1.7m) over significant depths of glacial till (0.2-21m) underlain by chalk bedrock.	The Applicant notes that NLC are satisfied that the approach to contamination set out in ES Chapter 11 is acceptable and that subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirements 12, 14 and 20, the impact of the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development, will be neutral.
10.4 In respect to human health chemical analysis of soil samples did not identify elevated concentrations of contamination. Trace values (<0.001%) of asbestos (chrysotile) were identified in a number of soil samples. The report has concluded that no	



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significant risk to human health is present and North Lincolnshire Council agrees that an appropriate CEMP (secured by Draft DCO Requirement 14) and use of standard PPE will provide sufficient protection to ground workers coming into contact with soil.	
10.5 The preliminary investigation included three rounds of gas monitoring. Potential risks posed by the identified ground gas regime have been considered using the methodology outlined in BS8485:2015. Using the worst case characteristic situation, the maximum concentration of carbon dioxide concentration of 3.9% and a flow rate of 17l/hr, a gas screening value of 0.29 has been derived. Using the screening value the site has been characterised as Characteristic Situation 2, requiring CS2 protection measures to be installed in any proposed buildings.	
10.6 It is proposed at 11.8.11 that Gas protection membranes may be incorporated into the foundation design to account for elevated ground gas levels should these be present, in accordance with British Standard 8485 entitled 'Code of practice for the Design of Protective Measures for Methane, and Carbon Dioxide Ground Gases for New Buildings'.	
10.7 It is, however, agreed that Requirement 12 of the Draft DCO adequately addresses the potential for land and ground water contamination impacts. Requirement 12 necessitates the submission of a written scheme to deal with contamination to the local planning authority for agreement in consultation with the Environment Agency.	
10.8 Chemical analysis of potentially leachable substances identified no exceedances or concentrations of chemicals in the ground water below the site. The distances to sensitive surface waters make it unlikely that leachable soil substances will impact on controlled waters.	
10.9 However there is potential during construction for pathways to be created therefore the risk from the contaminates which have been identified need to be considered. Such risks can mitigated thought risk assessment and design of construction proposals. If piling is proposed they should be designed in accordance with the EA guidance 'Piling and Penetrative Ground Improvement Methods on Land Affected by Contamination: Guidance on Pollution Prevention (2001)." Draft DCO Requirement 20 necessitates the	



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submission of a piling and penetrative foundation design method statement to be submitted for approval to the local planning authority in consultation with the Environment Agency.	
10.10 North Lincolnshire Council are satisfied that the approach to contamination set out in ES Chapter 11 is acceptable and that subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirements 12 and 20 the impact of the development in this regard will be neutral.	
11.0 Light 11.1 Whilst the proposed development has the potential to give rise to light nuisance during both the construction and operational phases, it is agreed that Requirement 7 will provide appropriate controls. Given the character of the area and the proliferation of industrial uses the proposal will not introduce artificial light into an inherently dark landscape. It is therefore agreed that the proposals will have no significant adverse effects resulting from light nuisance.	The Applicant notes that NLC agree that the proposals will have no significant adverse effects resulting from light nuisance and that Requirement 7 provides adequate controls.
12.0 Hydrology and flood risk 12.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of flood risk and drainage. This is set out in 6.2.12 – ES Chapter 12.	The Applicant notes that NLC is satisfied that subject to the acceptable discharge of Requirement 10, the impact of the proposals on flood risk and drainage will be neutral.
12.2 The FRA for the Proposed Development, included within Appendix 12A (ES Volume III, Application Document Ref. 6.4), concludes that development of the Site would not increase the risk of flooding from fluvial, tidal, groundwater or overland flow sources.	
12.3 A high level drainage strategy has been developed for the Site and is presented in Appendix 12A, Annex 5 (ES Volume III). As detailed in the drainage strategy and summaries in Paragraphs 12.6.27 – 12.6.31, surface water discharged from the Proposed Development would be restricted to a greenfield runoff rate via an attenuation tank and an appropriate flow control device. Surface water from the attenuation tank would outfall, via new drainage infrastructure, into the land drain located between the	



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OCGT Power Station Site and the Existing VPI CHP Plant Site, subject to agreement with the North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board (NELIDB).	
12.4 IT is confirmed at 12.9.32 that the site will be assessed as part of the detailed drainage design to consider the risk posed by any flooding up to and beyond the 1% (1 in 100 year) flood event. Any flooding would be diverted away from critical infrastructure or access routes and retained on the Site wherever possible. Other SuDS techniques such as swales, permeable paving and soakaways may be considered at the detailed design stage.	
12.5 Draft DCO Requirement 10 necessitates the submission and agreement following consultation with the EA, LLFA, Anglian Water and NELIDB of a detailed foul and surface water drainage strategy. North Lincolnshire Council is satisfied that subject to the acceptable discharge of this requirement the impact of the proposals on flood risk and drainage will be neutral.	
13.0 Human health	It is noted that NLC agrees that the proposed development would have a neutral impact on
13.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of human health. This is set out in 6.2.16 – ES Chapter 16. It is noted that health related effects (contamination, air quality etc.) of the development are also discussed in other chapters of the ES and these effects have been reviewed and commented upon elsewhere within this report.	human health.
13.2 As described in Chapter 6: Air Quality, the Proposed Development will be designed such that process emissions to air comply with the Emission Limit Values specified in the Industrial Emissions Directive and this will be enforced by the Environment Agency through an Environmental Permit required for the operation of the generating station.	
13.3 It is agreed that site's location adjacent to existing infrastructure (including the Existing VPI CHP Plant and the Total Lindsey Oil Refinery (TLOR)), avoids the proposed development being located within closer proximity to residential receptors where the significance of the potential human health impacts might otherwise increase.	



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13.4 The Proposed Development has the potential for impacts associated with electromagnetic fields (EMF). Within the conservative EMF Study Area around the Electrical Connection, no residential receptors are present and none are anticipated to be present in the future baseline. As such, the only potential exposure to EMF arises for construction workers and operational staff and no significant health effect is predicted for the general public.	
13.5 It is proposed that measures will be implemented to protect construction workers and operational staff from potential EMF effects associated with the existing substation and the electrical cable in accordance with the appropriate legislation and guidance. With the appropriate precautions in place, no significant health effects in the medium to long-term for construction workers or operational staff are predicted.	
13.6 North Lincolnshire Council agrees that the proposed development would have a neutral impact on human health.	
14.0 Social-economic impact	The Applicant notes that NLC are of the opinion
14.1 The Council has assessed the submitted information concerning the assessment of potential effects of the proposed development in respect of socio-economics. This is set out in 6.2.14 – ES Chapter 14.	that no adverse socio-economic effects have been identified and that the proposals would have a moderate positive socio-economic impact.
14.2 North Lincolnshire Council are satisfied that the approach to the assessment of socio-economic impacts presented in Chapter 14 is robust. The methodology used to determine the impact of the project is clear and helpful, indicating levels that can be easily measured. The data and statistics are relevant and appropriate.	
14.3 From previous delivery of large-scale projects in the area North Lincolnshire Council agree that it is realistic that there will be a moderate short-term positive impact on employment created during the employment phase of the development. It is understood that these will be temporary jobs and the Council concur that a proportion of these jobs	



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will be drawn from outside of the local area. The operational jobs created, although much lower in numbers, will have a minor positive impact on the area.	
14.4 Both temporary and permanent jobs generated by the development will result in additional spend to the area through accommodation, leisure use and local shops/services as well as the potential for additional work given to local supply chain companies. Although a minor impact, local companies may also secure long-term contracts once the facility is operational.	
14.5 The proposed development has the potential to support further growth of the construction and energy sectors in North Lincolnshire. In addition to the value added GVA, it would provide an opportunity to address highlighted skills shortages in this key sector (highlighted in local and regional Industrial Strategies), therefore positively influencing the ability to attract and retain skilled workers over the lifetime of the proposed development. The skills and experience gained and developed for businesses and workers, has the potential to lead to opportunities with any future local developments. This will be further supported by Draft DCO Requirement 23, which secures the submission and implementation of an Employment, skills and training plan. It is agreed that this provides and appropriate mechanism to promote employment, skills and training opportunities during construction and employment opportunities during operation for local residents.	
14.6 The energy sector has been identified as a key growth sector across the Humber and the Greater Lincolnshire regions. This sector is identified in the North Lincolnshire Economic Growth Plan as a growth sector within the area.	
14.7 The proposed development is in an area of current industrial activity and it not considered to have an adverse impact on visitor economy of North Lincolnshire.	
14.8 The generation of employment in this location is a strategic aim of North Lincolnshire Council as evidenced in the employment land allocation SHBE-1 of the Housing and Employment Land Allocation DPD (2016). Furthermore, no adverse socio-	



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economic effects have been identified. Therefore it is concluded that the proposals would have a moderate positive socio-economic impact.	
15.0 Conclusion 15.1 National guidance on Local Impact Reports recommends that a view is given by the local planning authority of the relative importance of different social, environmental or economic issues and impacts of the scheme on them.	The Applicant notes NLC's view that the mitigation measures to be secured through Requirements and other statutory regimes mean that any residual negative effects will not be significant.
15.2 Short term and negative social and environmental impacts are anticipated. Such impacts include increased traffic generation, construction disturbance and increased emissions. Longer term adverse impacts include the visual intrusion caused by the buildings and structures comprising the OCGT plant. North Lincolnshire Council are of the view that via the implementation of impact avoidance, design and mitigation measures that will be secured through Requirements (subject to comments raise above) contained within the draft DCO and through other regulatory regimes that these negative impacts will not be significant.	As mentioned above, an updated Framework WSI was submitted to and agreed by NLC on 3 October 2019, in order to satisfy the concerns outlined in the Cultural Heritage section above. A Statement of Common Ground with NLC has been submitted for Deadline 3 (Document Ref 8.1).
15.3 Residual long-term negative effects relate to the potential impact on non-designated heritage assets. Whilst it is considered that this impact could be acceptably mitigated through DCO Requirements for the reasons outlined in the Cultural Heritage section of the LIR above, it is the view of the Council that the currently proposed requirement in this respect is not adequate.	
15.4 The development will have short-term and long-term beneficial economic impacts in terms of job creation and inward investment into North Lincolnshire. Through the proposed Requirements the development will also provide an opportunity to address highlighted skill shortages in a key sector strategically promoted for growth by the Council in this area. These beneficial impacts are considered to be of moderate importance.	