



Meeting note

Project name	Gas 2 Wire/TIGRE Project
File reference	N/A
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	8 February 2018
Meeting with	Gas 2 Wire
Venue	The Planning Inspectorate
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Tracey Williams (Case Manager) Emma Cottam (EIA and Land Rights Advisor)
	The Applicant Dermot Grimson (Indigo Power Ltd)(via telcon) Madeline Hodge (Niras Consulting Ltd)
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which Applicants (or others) could rely.

Project Update

The Applicant confirmed that TIGRE Project 1 Ltd is now the promoter of the project. The Inspectorate advised that this change of company should be explained in the Funding Statement.

The Applicant gave a brief summary of characteristics of the project that will be located off the coast of East Anglia;

- The proposal is for an Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) generator in the range of 220MW located on an existing platform offshore.
- The topside of the platform will either be decommissioned and refurbished or removed and replaced.
- The existing gas export pipeline will no longer be required and instead will be utilised as a gas storage facility.
- A new cable will be installed to interconnect into the Offshore Transmission Operator (OFTO) off shore windfarm substation.
- There are 4 connection options currently under consideration.

- The exported electricity entering the national grid would come from a combined mix of gas and offshore wind.

The Applicant indicated that a combination of major infrastructure planning and consenting regimes are required. They stated that gas platform and associated production infrastructure and processes are permitted under oil and gas procedures (Pipeline Works Authorisation).

They indicated that the proposal provides an opportunity to monetise the value of gas in the field by generating power offshore and transporting it to market via existing electricity transmission infrastructure.

The Applicant stated that particularly as the project is a novel concept they have been engaging early with key stakeholders, including the Marine Management Organisation, Treasury, Fishermen and Shipping Organisations. They also have a meeting planned with Norfolk County Council.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to refer to the Inspectorate's [Advice Note Seven](#) 'Environmental Impact Assessment: Process, Preliminary Environmental Information and Environmental Statements' in preparation if they are submitting a scoping request.

The Applicant asked whether there were any risks of not submitting a scoping request (See post Meeting note narrative below).

Project timelines

The Applicant indicated that they plan to carry out their statutory consultation in November and December 2018 leading to the submission of the Application in March 2019.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- Applicant to complete the new case information template in order that the Inspectorate can set up a project page on the Inspectorate's website. This needs to be done before a scoping request is submitted.
- The Inspectorate to respond to query regarding Scoping Opinion (see below)

Post Meeting Note advice

The Applicant queried what risks would be involved should it decide not to submit a scoping request. Whilst scoping is not a mandatory requirement, there is a risk at the Acceptance stage if the Environmental Statement (ES) is missing consideration of a particular aspect/matter which the Inspectorate considers to impact on the adequacy of the ES.

The Applicant is encouraged to use the scoping process to assist with narrowing the scope of its ES, as appropriate. A key benefit of the scoping process is the consultation exercise conducted by the Inspectorate during the scoping process, the responses to which are likely to assist the Applicant in preparing its ES. The Applicant will also receive a list of the consultation bodies who the Inspectorate has notified

under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations 2017'), which can inform the Applicant's own consultation - although not be relied upon for that purpose.

The Applicant's attention is drawn to the Inspectorate's [Advice Note Seven](#) which provides more information regarding the scoping process.

It is also important to note that after adopting a Scoping Opinion, the Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) conducts its first transboundary screening of the Proposed Development using the information provided in the Applicant's Scoping Report (in accordance with its duties under Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations 2017). If the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in another European Economic Area (EEA) State, those states will be notified and consulted.

Without a Scoping Report, the Inspectorate cannot complete the first transboundary screening until after acceptance of a Development Consent Order application. Should EEA State/s be notified and consulted by the Secretary of State at this later stage, there is a risk of receiving representations which could have been addressed earlier in the process.

Post meeting update

Subsequent to this meeting, the Applicant advised the Inspectorate that it does not now intend to use the existing gas pipeline as a gas storage facility, although it does remain an option.