

# Net Zero Teesside Project

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010103

Land at and in the vicinity of the former Redcar Steel Works site, Redcar and in Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside

The Net Zero Teesside Order

Document Reference: 9.41 – Response to Examining Authority’s Report on the Implications for European Sites [PD-018]

Planning Act 2008



Applicants: Net Zero Teesside Power Limited (NZN Power Ltd) & Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited (NZNS Storage Ltd)

Date: October 2022

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

<b>Document Ref</b>	9.41		
<b>Revision</b>	1.0		
<b>Author</b>	Ian Campbell (IC)		
<b>Signed</b>	IC	<b>Date</b>	06.10.22
<b>Approved By</b>	Richard Lowe (RL)		
<b>Signed</b>	RL	<b>Date</b>	06.10.22
<b>Document Owner</b>	AECOM		

## GLOSSARY

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
BEIS	The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CCGT	Combined Cycle Gas Turbine
CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
DCO	Development Consent Order
ES	Environmental Statement
ExA	Examining Authority
FEED	Front End Engineering Design
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
km	Kilometres
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NZT	The Net Zero Teesside Project
NZT Power	Net Zero Teesside Power Limited
NZNS Storage	Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited
PA 2008	Planning Act 2008
PCC	Power Capture and Compressor Site
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
SoS	Secretary of State
STDC	South Tees Development Corporation
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance

---

## CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Responses to Questions in RIES.....</b>	<b>6</b>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Overview

1.1.1 This response to the Examining Authority's Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) [PD-018] has been prepared on behalf of Net Zero Teesside Power Limited and Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited (the 'Applicants'). It relates to the application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (a 'DCO'), that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ('BEIS'), under Section 37 of 'The Planning Act 2008' (the 'PA 2008') for the Net Zero Teesside Project (the 'Proposed Development').

1.1.2 The Application was submitted to the SoS on 19 July 2021 and was accepted for Examination on 16 August 2021. Change requests made by the Applicants in respect of the Application were accepted into the Examination by the Examining Authority on 6 May 2022 and 6 September 2022.

### 1.2 Description of the Proposed Development

1.2.1 The Proposed Development will work by capturing CO<sub>2</sub> from a new the gas-fired power station in addition to a cluster of local industries on Teesside and transporting it via a CO<sub>2</sub> transport pipeline to the Endurance saline aquifer under the North Sea. The Proposed Development will initially capture and transport up to 4Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum, although the CO<sub>2</sub> transport pipeline has the capacity to accommodate up to 10Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum thereby allowing for future expansion.

1.2.2 The Proposed Development comprises the following elements:

- **Work Number ('Work No.') 1** – a Combined Cycle Gas Turbine electricity generating station with an electrical output of up to 860 megawatts and post-combustion carbon capture plant (the '**Low Carbon Electricity Generating Station**');
- **Work No. 2** – a natural gas supply connection and Above Ground Installations ('AGIs') (the '**Gas Connection Corridor**');
- **Work No. 3** – an electricity grid connection (the '**Electrical Connection**');
- **Work No. 4** – water supply connections (the '**Water Supply Connection Corridor**');
- **Work No. 5** – waste water disposal connections (the '**Water Discharge Connection Corridor**');
- **Work No. 6** – a CO<sub>2</sub> gathering network (including connections under the tidal River Tees) to collect and transport the captured CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial emitters (the industrial emitters using the gathering network will be responsible for consenting their own carbon capture plant and connections to the gathering network) (the '**CO<sub>2</sub> Gathering Network Corridor**');
- **Work No. 7** – a high-pressure CO<sub>2</sub> compressor station to receive and compress the captured CO<sub>2</sub> from the Low Carbon Electricity Generating Station and the CO<sub>2</sub>

Gathering Network before it is transported offshore (the '**HP Compressor Station**');

- **Work No. 8** – a dense phase CO<sub>2</sub> export pipeline for the onward transport of the captured and compressed CO<sub>2</sub> to the Endurance saline aquifer under the North Sea (the '**CO<sub>2</sub> Export Pipeline**');
- **Work No. 9** – temporary construction and laydown areas, including contractor compounds, construction staff welfare and vehicle parking for use during the construction phase of the Proposed Development (the '**Laydown Areas**'); and
- **Work No. 10** – access and highway improvement works (the '**Access and Highway Works**').

1.2.3 The electricity generating station, its post-combustion carbon capture plant and the CO<sub>2</sub> compressor station will be located on part of the South Tees Development Corporation ('STDC') Teesworks area (on part of the former Redcar Steel Works Site). The CO<sub>2</sub> export pipeline will also start in this location before heading offshore. The generating station connections and the CO<sub>2</sub> gathering network will require corridors of land within the administrative areas of both Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Councils, including crossings beneath the River Tees.

### **1.3 The Purpose of this Document**

1.3.1 The purpose of this document is to support the Applicants' response to questions as set out in the Examining Authority's RIES. Each question listed in the RIES is reproduced in bold text in Section 2. The Applicants' response is given in plain text after each question.

## **2.0 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS IN RIES**

### **2.1 RIES.2.1 The Applicant is requested to provide a version of the HRA Report which treats this matter consistently in all sections of the report.**

2.1.1 This has been addressed by additional text in Document 5.13 Habitat Regulations Assessment Report submitted at Deadline 9. In particular, section 5 of that report confirms that visual disturbance has been screened into the Appropriate Assessment for the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA / Ramsar.

### **2.2 RIES. 3.1 Could the Applicants comment on the potential for in-combination effects on the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA/Ramsar site as a result of the proposed installation of rock armour?**

2.2.1 This has been addressed by additional text in Table 7-1 of Document 5.13 Habitat Regulations Assessment Report submitted at Deadline 9. There is considered no potential for in-combination effects, and the updated Statement of Common Ground between the Applicants and Natural England (Document Ref. 8.6) confirms there are no outstanding concerns about the installation of rock armour.

### **2.3 RIES. 3.2 Can NE confirm whether it has any remaining concerns about the Applicants' assessment and/ or its conclusions of no adverse effects on the integrity of the Teesmouth and Cleveland SPA/Ramsar site. If so, please confirm what further information and/ or assessment it considers is required.**

2.3.1 No response required from the Applicants. However, it is of note that the updated Statement of Common Ground between the Applicants and Natural England (Document Ref. 8.6) confirms this point.

### **2.4 RIES.3.4 Can NE clarify what additional wording it would expect to see in the DCO to address its concerns about managing the risk of HDD bore collapse/leakage effects on the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA/Ramsar site?**

2.4.1 No response required from the Applicants. However, it is of note that the updated Statement of Common Ground between the Applicants and Natural England (Document Ref. 8.6) confirms this point.

### **2.5 RIES.3.5 Can the Applicants explain how the pollution control measures outlined in the example contractor drilling method statement would be secured in the DCO if these are required to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the SPA/Ramsar site?**

2.5.1 The Applicants held a meeting with Natural England on 15 September 2022. It was agreed that specific pollution control measures would be secured through Requirement 16 of the DCO. The Applicants have updated the draft Framework CEMP accordingly to include those measures and submitted this at Deadline 9 (Document Ref. 6.4.5).

**2.6 RIES.3.6 The Applicants and MMO are requested to provide an update on this matter, including the scope of additional assessment work required, the likely timescales for completion of such work and reporting to the Examination.**

2.6.1 Following further discussion between the Applicants and the MMO, the Applicants understand that the MMO are content with the assessment of the environmental impacts of UXOs (and resulting impacts on marine mammals) as presented in the Net Zero Teesside ES and HRA. This is addressed specifically in section 6.3 of Document 5.13 Habitat Regulations Assessment Report submitted at Deadline 9. The Statement of Common Ground between the Applicants and the MMO submitted at Deadline 8 [REP8-039] confirms there are no outstanding concerns about the assessment of environmental impacts of UXOs.

**2.7 RIES.3.7 NE is requested to comment on the concerns raised by the MMO in relation to the assessment of effects on harbour porpoise in the Applicants' HRA Report. Is NE satisfied that sufficient evidence is available to the Secretary of State to allow them to assess the effects on the integrity of the Southern North Sea SAC?**

2.7.1 No response required from the Applicants. However, it is of note that the updated Statement of Common Ground between the Applicants and Natural England confirms their satisfaction on this point.

**2.8 Other matters**

2.8.1 In addition, the Applicants note that sections 3.2.4 to 3.2.6 of the RIES discuss the effects of the stack height on the air quality assessment. This matter has previously been discussed in responses to AQ.2.2 submitted as part of the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions (ExQ2) [PD-016]. The Applicants' position was set out in their response to AQ.2.2 submitted at Deadline 6 [REP6-121]. The Applicants' position remains that the selected stack height is adequately controlled through Requirement 3(1)(c) of the draft DCO, specifically that any stack height selected must not lead to environmental effects worse than those reported in the Environmental Statement included within the DCO Application, specifically in Appendix 8B, Air Quality – Operation Phase [APP-248].