

Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility



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Statement of Common Ground between Medworth CHP Limited and Historic England

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Revision History

Revision number	Date	Details
0.0	21 February 2023	Draft produced by Medworth CHP Ltd and issued to UKHSA for comment.
1.0	08 March 2023	Draft updated with current status.
2.0	23 March 2023	Draft Final.
3.0	27 March 2023	Final (signed).

Signatories

Applicant

Signed	Digitally signed Date: 2023.03.27 16:16:57 +01'00'	by Tim Marks Date: 2023.03.27 15:45:44 +01'00'
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Date	27 March 2023	27 March 2023

Historic England

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Date	24 March 2023





Contents

1.	Introduction	4
1.1	Purpose of Statement of Common Ground	4
1.2	Approach to Statement of Common Ground	4
2.	The parties to the Statement of Common Ground	5
2.1	The Applicant and Party to the Statement of Common Ground	5
2.2	Role of Historic England and Consultation	5
2.3	Summary of Current Position	6
2.4	Status of the Statement of Common Ground	6
3.	Agreement on Common Ground	7
3.1	Overview	7
3.2	General	7
	Overview of the Proposed Development	7
3.3	Draft DCO	9
3.4	ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment	9
4.	Summary	14
	Table 2.1: Summary of pre-application consultation with Historic England	6
	Table 3.1: Agreement Log: General	9
	Table 3.2: Agreement Log: Draft DCO	9
	Table 3.3: Agreement Log: ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment	10



1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Statement of Common Ground

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared between Medwath CHP Limited ('the Applicant') and Historic England to set out the areas of agreement and/or disagreement between the parties in relation to the proposed Development Consent Order (DCO) Application for the Medwath CHP EfW Facility.
- 1.1.2 The preparation of SOCG is encouraged by the Planning Inspectorate. Advice Note 11: Working with public bodies in the infrastructure planning process encourages a proactive approach to reaching agreement on the approach and the conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and the approach to consents, licences and authorisations.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG covers the following topics:
- General;
 - Draft DCO;
 - ES Chapter 3 – Description of the Proposed Development; and
 - ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment.
- 1.1.4 It is the intention that this document provides the Examining Authority (ExA) with a clear overview of the level of common ground between both parties.

1.2 Approach to Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 The structure of this SoCG is as follows:
- Section 1: The parties to the SoCG;
 - Section 2: Agreement on Common Ground; and
 - Section 3: Summary.



2. The parties to the Statement of Common Ground

2.1 The Applicant and Party to the Statement of Common Ground

2.1.1 The parties to this SoCG are:

- Medworth CHP Limited, the Applicant for the Proposed Development; and
- Historic England.

2.2 Role of Historic England and Consultation

2.2.1 The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE) is better known as Historic England and is the Government's adviser on all aspects of the historic environment in England, including historic buildings and areas, archaeology and historic landscapes. Historic England has a duty to promote conservation, public understanding and enjoyment of the historic environment. Historic England is an executive Non-Departmental public body and answers to Parliament through the Secretary of State for Digital Culture, Media and Sport.

2.2.2 Historic England provides advice to local planning authorities, government departments, developers and owners on development proposals affecting the historic environment, and specifically has a role in providing advice in relation to development which may affect a Grade I or II* listed building or its setting, or which may affect the character or appearance of a Conservation Area. For the purposes of Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 11 of Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2008, Historic England is a statutory consultee.

2.2.3 A summary of the general pre-application consultation with Historic England is set out in **Table 2.1** below. The level of engagement between the applicant and Historic England, as set out in **Table 2.1 Summary of pre-application consultation with Historic England** of this SoCG has been appropriate and has provided Historic England with the information reasonably required to inform their understanding of the Proposed Development and its likely significant effects on the historic environment. Historic England did not respond to EIA Scoping.



Table 2.1: Summary of pre-application consultation with Historic England

Date	Form of consultation	Statutory/Non-Statutory	Summary
13/08/2021	PEIR response	Statutory	PEIR responses on Historic Environment.
1/12/2021	Email and subsequent telephone call	Non-Statutory	Email and subsequent telephone call to agree the additional illustration to be included following PEIR response

2.3 Summary of Current Position

2.3.1 The Applicant submitted a Draft SOCG (Rev 0) to Historic England on 21 February 2023. Historic England replied on 10 March 2023 to state that it was in overall agreement and included some comments to clarify its position. These comments have been included within this SOCG and this document (Rev3) now represents the position between Historic England and the Applicant.

2.4 Status of the Statement of Common Ground

2.4.1 This is the final signed SOCG (Rev3). The documents referred to in this version of the SoCG are those submitted with the DCO application and available on the Planning Inspectorate's website.



3. Agreement on Common Ground

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 The following sections of this SoCG set out the level of agreement between the parties for each relevant topic. In order to easily identify whether a matter is 'agreed' or 'not agreed', a RAG within the 'position' column with red illustrating no agreement, amber that agreement is yet to be reach, and green, agreement.

3.1.2 The following section of this SoCG summaries the level of agreement between Medworth CHP Ltd and Historic England on all relevant matters.

3.2 General

Overview of the Proposed Development

3.2.1 The Proposed Development comprises the following key elements:

- The EfW CHP Facility Site;
- CHP Connection;
- Temporary Construction Compound (TCC);
- Access Improvements;
- Water Connections; and
- Grid Connection (underground cable and Walsoken Substation).

3.2.2 A summary description of each Proposed Development element is provided below. A more detailed description is provided in **Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)** of the ES. A list of terms and abbreviations can be found in **Chapter: 1 Introduction, Appendix 1F Terms and Abbreviations (Volume 6.4)**.

- **EfW CHP Facility Site:** A site of approximately 5.3ha located south-west of Wisbech, located within the administrative areas of Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. The main buildings of the EfW CHP Facility would be located in the area to the north of the Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board (HWIDB) drain bisecting the site and would house many development elements including the tipping hall, waste bunkers, boiler house, turbine hall, air cooled condenser, air pollution control building, chimneys and administration building. The gatehouse, weighbridges, 132kV switching compound and laydown maintenance area would be located in the southern section of the EfW CHP Facility Site.
- **CHP Connection:** The EfW CHP Facility would be designed to allow the export of steam and electricity from the facility to surrounding business users via dedicated pipelines and private wire cables located along the disused March to



Wisbech railway. The pipeline and cables would be located on a raised, steel structure.

- TCC: Located adjacent to the EfW CHP Facility Site, the compound would be used to support the construction of the Proposed Development. The compound would be in place for the duration of construction.
- Access Improvements: includes access improvements on New Bridge Lane (road widening and site access) and Algores Way (relocation of site access 20m to the south).
- Water Connections: A new water main connecting the EfW CHP Facility into the local network will run underground from the EfW CHP Facility Site along New Bridge Lane before crossing underneath the A47 (open cut trenching or horizontal directional drilling (HDD)) to join an existing Anglian Water main. An additional foul sewer connection is required to an existing pumping station operated by Anglian Water located to the north-east of the Algores Way site entrance and into the EfW CHP Facility Site.
- Grid Connection: This comprises a 132kV electrical connection using underground cables. The Grid Connection route begins at the 132kV switching compound in the EfW CHP Facility Site and runs underneath New Bridge Lane, before heading north within the verge of the A47 to the Walsoken Substation on Broadend Road. From this point the cable would be connected underground to the Walsoken DNO Substation.

3.2.3

The Proposed Development would be constructed in a manner consistent with that described within ES **Chapter: 3 Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)**. In summary:

- Work would commence with the establishment of the TCC together with any pre-commencement surveys and works to demolish existing structures and clear the EfW CHP Facility Site. The mobilisation and site set-up phase will last approximately 3-months.
- Access Improvements on New Bridge Lane will commence and take place over a 6-month period.
- Civil works comprising earthworks, piling and later the creation of external hardstanding areas, concrete structures and steelwork framing and the installation of the Water Connections will take place over a 34-month period.
- Overlapping with the erection of the structures at the EfW CHP Facility Site, mechanical, electrical and plant installation would take place over a period of 24-months followed by a 9-month period of commissioning and testing.
- The construction of the CHP Connection and Grid Connection would follow a similar process of mobilisation, civils and commissioning.

3.2.4

Following the completion of commissioning and testing, the TCC site accessed from Algores Way would be restored to its former condition.

3.2.1

The Proposed Development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under Part 3, Section 14 of the Planning Act 2008 by virtue of the fact that the generating station is located in England and has a generating capacity of over



50MW (see section 15(2) of the 2008 Act). It, therefore, requires an application to be submitted to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The DCO application has been submitted by Medworth CHP Ltd (the Applicant); a wholly owned subsidiary of MVV Environment Ltd.

Table 3.1: Agreement Log: General

ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
3.1.1	The summary of the Proposed Development provided in Section 3.2 above reflects Historic England's understanding of the Proposed Development.		Agreed

3.3 Draft DCO

3.3.1 The submitted **Draft DCO (Volume 3.1) [REP1-007]** includes necessary Articles and at Schedule 2, the Requirements.

Table 3.2: Agreement Log: Draft DCO

ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
3.2.1	That the Articles and Requirements which comprise the Draft DCO (Volume 3.1) [REP1-007] are satisfactory.		Agreed.

3.4 ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment

3.4.1 **ES Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) [APP-037]** together with **ES Chapter 10 Historic Environment Figures (Volume 6.3) [APP-062]** and **ES Chapter 10 Historic Environment Appendices (Volume 6.4) [APP-080]** establishes relevant baseline conditions and assesses the potential for significant effects upon receptors relevant to the historic environment. **Table 3.3 Agreement Log: ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment** below records the agreement on key matters relating to Historic England's areas of interest.



Table 3.3: Agreement Log: ES Chapter 10 – Historic Environment

ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
3.2.1	<p>The scope and methodology for the assessment of effects on the historic environment (as reported in ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) [APP-037]) are appropriate and accord with relevant and current good practice.</p> <p>The assessment of effects on the settings of heritage assets has been carried out in accordance with relevant Historic England guidance (The Setting of Heritage Assets, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3).</p>		Agreed.
3.2.2	<p>The baseline conditions reported in ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) [APP-037] correctly identify and evaluate the significance of known heritage assets in the study area, including confirmation that there are no designated heritage assets within the application site.</p>		Agreed.
3.2.3	<p>Historic England's primary consideration in relation to this application is the impact of the proposal on views out from the southern part of the Wisbech Conservation Area.</p>		Noted and Agreed.
3.2.4	<p>Wisbech Conservation Area is located 995m north of the</p>		Agreed.



ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
	proposed EfW CHP Facility at its nearest point.		
3.2.5	Outward views which are most likely to be altered by the proposed EfW CHP Facility are largely restricted to those from the southern edge of Wisbech Conservation Area, particularly from the southern end of North Brink at Elgoods Brewery. Figure 9.23b Viewpoint 7, in ES Chapter 9, Landscape and Visual Figures 9.17 – 9.24 (Volume 6.3) [APP-058] appropriately represents the view out from this part of Wisbech Conservation Area.		Agreed.
3.3.6	The Grade II*-listed 15 South Brink (ref LB1229902, formerly listed under the name Queens School) is located on South Brink, within Wisbech Conservation Area and at a distance of 1490m north of the proposed EfW CHP Facility. The building faces South Brink to the north and is set back from the street path behind an iron railed yard. The setting of 15 South Brink is defined by its presence and association with the South Brink Street frontage and River Nene. The position of 15 South Brink on the South Brink street frontage is illustrated in a photomontage from Peckover House (Figure 9.26b (Viewpoint 10, in Volume 6.3 of the ES, chapter 9, Landscape and Visual Figures 9.25 – 9.32		Agreed.



ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
	<p>[APP-058] and there will be no effect on this view.</p> <p>The building's wider setting, which has been compromised in recent years, would also be experienced from the cupola to some degree, and this would include longer south-westerly views in which the EfW CHP Facility is likely to feature.</p>		
3.2.7	<p>While the EfW CHP Facility would add a new visual component in far views from the upper floors of 15 South Brink beyond existing industrial estates to the southwest these views in general do not contribute to an appreciation or understanding of the asset.</p> <p>The long views out do however have some effect on the sensory experience of the asset particularly from the cupola. There will therefore be some change resulting from visibility of the EfW CHP Facility at a distance of 1490m. This will result in a low to moderate degree of change to this view toward the EfW CHP Facility, though overall, effects on the listed building will not be significant.</p>		Agreed.
3.2.8	<p>The evaluation of effects on the historic environment, as reported in ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Volume 6.2)</p>		Agreed.



ID	Statement on which agreement is sought	Position (RAG)	Commentary
	[APP-037] is robust and appropriately justified.		
3.2.9	The Proposed Development will not cause substantial harm to the significance of any designated heritage asset or its setting.		Agreed
3.2.10	The minor effects on the heritage significance of Wisbech Conservation Area as a result of visibility of the upper parts of the Proposed Development and chimneys being visible in views out from the North Brink/Elgoods Brewery area have been appropriately assessed in ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) [APP-037].		Agreed



4. Summary

- 4.1.1 This SoCG has outlined the consultation that has taken place between the Applicant and Historic England during the pre-submission and submission stages of the Application. The agreement presents the common ground.

