



Application by Drax Power Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Project (Case Ref: EN010120)

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection undertaken on 13 and 14 September 2022 (USI1)

Background

The Examining Authority (ExA) undertook its first Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI1) on the afternoon of 13 September 2022 and on 14 September 2022 to support its forthcoming examination of the application by Drax Power Limited for the proposed Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Project. In the interests of efficiency, the ExA decided to commence its programme of Unaccompanied Site Inspections (USI) before the Preliminary Meeting (PM).

Inspections were undertaken from publicly accessible land including highways and public rights of way by car or on foot. No access was required to private land, so advance permission to enter land was not required and these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis. The routes were planned having regard to the Applicant's application documents and the USI enabled the ExA to obtain views of, and to become familiar with, the application site and surrounding area.

Viewpoints (**VP**) referred to relate to those identified in the Applicant's Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) [AS-045].

Further site inspections may be required. The site inspection programmes will be discussed at the PM to be held in due course. The Applicant, Interested Parties and Other Persons will be provided with an opportunity to provide comments to the ExA on the approach that they should take to site inspections and to nominate site inspection locations. An opportunity will be provided to propose inspections of private land; land where accompaniment is required for safety and related reasons; and land where specific features need to be drawn to the ExA's attention on an accompanied basis, known as Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI).

Particulars of the USI

The USI was undertaken by the ExA consisting of Caroline Jones and Ben Northover, accompanied by the Case Manager, George Harrold. The USI was carried out over two days.

Day 1 – Tuesday 13 September 2022

Weather: Clear skies and sunshine; the temperature was warm.

Visibility: Good at all times

- i. The ExA began by observing the site from distant north and west facing views travelling by car along the M18 and M62 motorways (Figure 1).

- ii. The ExA then approached the site by car from the north observing the site from distant south facing views along the A19.
- iii. The ExA stopped at the corner of Thief Lane and Brown Cow Road (Point 2, Figure 2) to view the site from **VP4**, representative of residential receptors with south-east facing views.
- iv. The ExA travelled on to Barlow and walked from Carr Lane to the proposed offsite habitat provision area (Point 3, Figure 2).
- v. The ExA then travelled round to Landing Lane (Point 6, Figure 2) passing through the Hemingbrough conservation area, and walked north-east along the Trans Pennine Way to Point 5 on Figure 2, observing the site from recreational receptors of users of the river and the National Trail.
- vi. The ExA concluded day 1 of the USI by travelling on to Barmby Tidal Barrage via Barmby on the Marsh to view the site from the residential receptor area and the River Derwent SSSI & SAC.



Figure 1

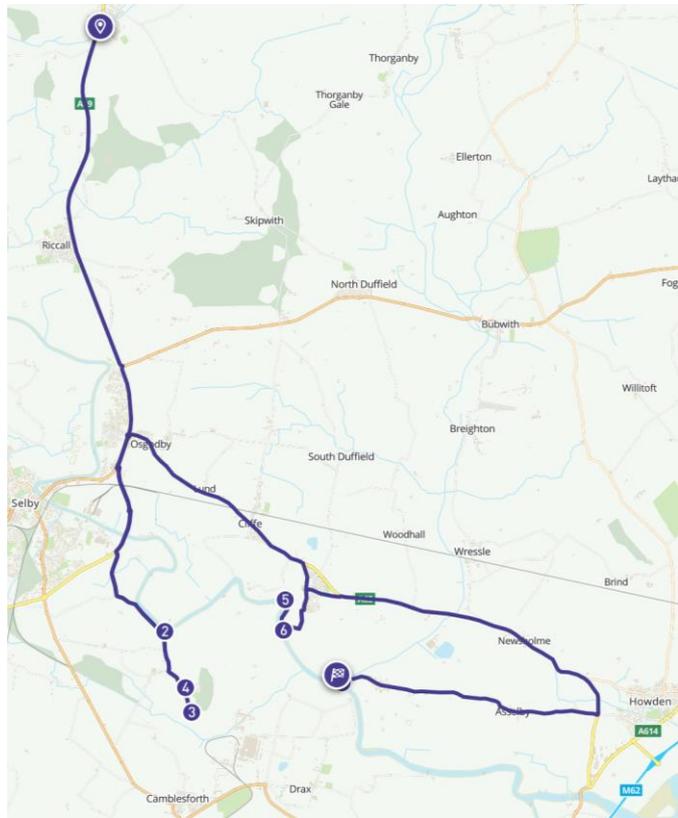


Figure 2

Day 2 – Wednesday 14 September 2022

Weather: Overcast; the temperature was mild.

Visibility: Low level mist which cleared mid-morning before the site inspection commenced. Visibility was always good for the viewpoints observed.

- i. The ExA began by travelling the proposed Abnormal Invisibile Load (AIL) route from Goole docks to the village of Drax by car.

- ii. The ExA travelled by car through Drax village and stopped at the following points to view the site from views representative of residential receptors and road users along local roads surrounding the site:
 - a. Main Road **VP9** (Point 2, Figure 3).
 - b. Pear Tree Avenue **VP6** (Point 3, Figure 3).
 - c. New Road (Point 5, Figure 3).
- iii. The ExA walked along the Public Right of Way (PRoW) (Ref 35.47/6/1) from New Road to view the proposed location of the CO₂ delivery compound.
- iv. The ExA then travelled by car through Camblesforth to observe the site from Camela Lane **VP2** (Point 6, Figure 3), and walked along the PRoWs (Ref 35.17/12/1 and 35.47/11/1) to observe a close-up view **VP3** of the site (Point 7, Figure 3).
- v. The ExA concluded day 2 of the USI by travelling by car to view the site from the junction of Barlow Road and the A1041 **VP1** (Point 7, Figure 3) and then through Camblesforth, Carlton and on to Snaith.

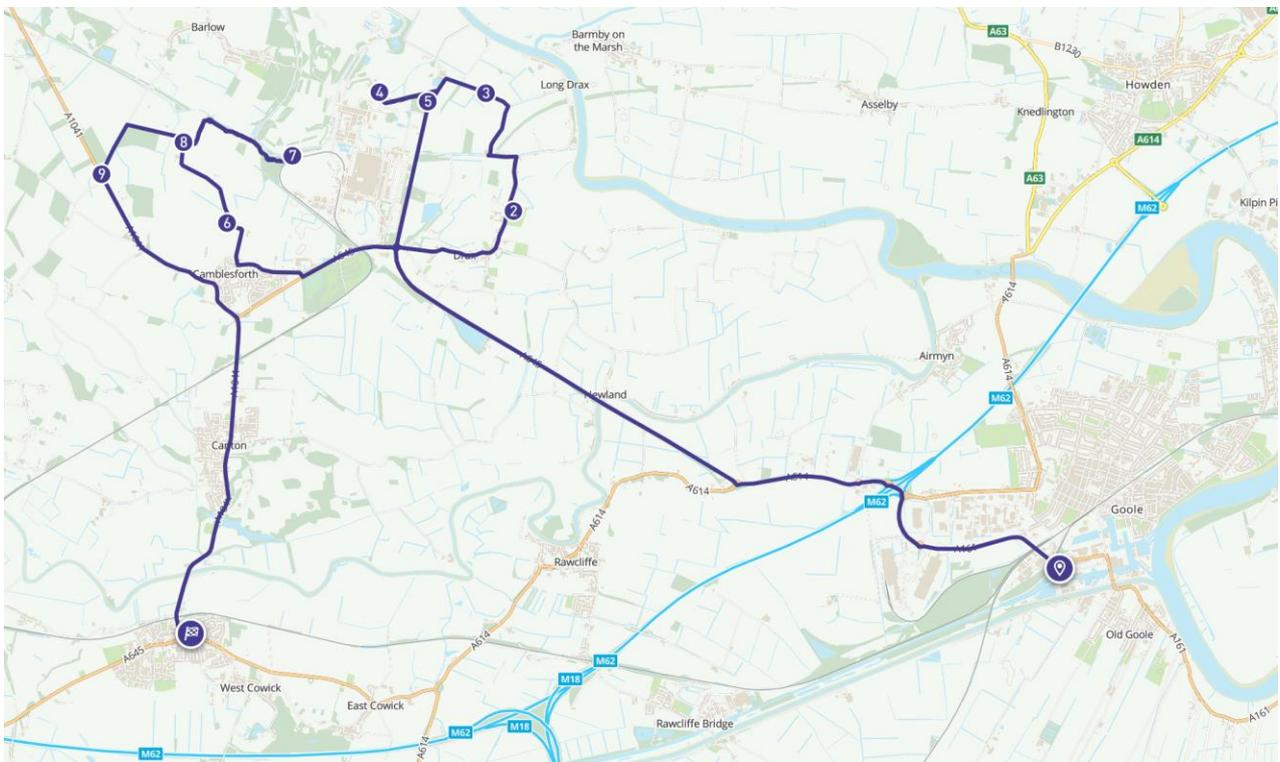


Figure 3

Summary

- i. The ExA viewed the application site from a number of short- and long-range public vantage points, located in all directions around the application site.
- ii. The ExA considers that it is not necessary to visit these locations again, and does not propose to do so unless specifically requested to.

End of USI1