



STATEMENT OF COMMONALITY FOR STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

Regulation 5(2)(q) Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Rule 8 (1)(e) Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage

The Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

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1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

1.1. PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT OF COMMONALITY

- 1.1.1. This Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground (this 'Statement') relates to an application made by Drax Power Ltd (the Applicant) on 23 May 2022 to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy via the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).
- 1.1.2. The Application was submitted under section 37 (2) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) for a Development Consent Order (DCO), and if made would grant consent for the Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Project. The Application was accepted for examination by the Inspectorate on 20 June 2022.
- 1.1.3. The Scheme will involve the installation of technology which is designed to remove carbon dioxide from the flue gas produced from the electricity generating process. The technology will be fitted to Units 1 and 2 of Drax Power Station, these Units are fired on biomass. It is designed to remove approximately 95% of the carbon dioxide from the flue gas that is currently emitted from these existing Units. The carbon dioxide captured will undergo processing and compression before being transported via a proposed new pipeline for storage under the southern North Sea where it will be injected into geological formations below the seabed. The transport and storage infrastructure will be developed as a separate project by National Grid Carbon Limited (NGCL). A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in Chapter 2 (Site and Project Description) of the Environmental Statement (document reference APP-038).
- 1.1.4. This Statement and the Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) have been prepared by the Applicant and in its view provide an accurate record of both discussions to date with the interested parties listed at Table 3.1 and summary of the issues that are either agreed, subject to further discussion, or not agreed. Drafts of the SoCGs have been shared with the interested parties and a number of comments on those have been received and taken into account in the preparation of this Statement and the SoCGs.
- 1.1.5. The Applicant will work to agree and submit joint working drafts of the SoCGs as the examination progresses. Prior to the end of the examination, the Applicant intends to submit jointly on behalf of both parties a final version of each of the SoCGs confirming what matters have been agreed and have not been agreed, and if any remain under discussion. This will be accompanied by a final version of this Statement prepared by the Applicant.
- 1.1.6. This Statement has been prepared to provide the Examining Authority ('ExA') with the current position on SoCG between the Applicant and prescribed consultees, statutory undertakers and interested parties (Other Parties) in relation to the Scheme.
- 1.1.7. This Statement also sets out the current position on the commonality of specific SoCGs.

2. STRUCTURE OF STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

- 2.1.1. To ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed, matters subject to further negotiation or matters not agreed, each of the SoCG adopts a standard format in order to provide clarity to the Other Parties and ultimately the ExA.
- 2.1.2. Each SoCG has the following structure:
- Section 1 provides the introduction to the SoCG and a description of its purpose;
 - Section 2 states the engagement that has occurred between the Applicant and Other Party to date; and
 - Section 3 provides a summary of topics covered by the SoCG and lists the DCO Application documents of relevant to the SoCG;
 - Section 4 addresses the key matters of relevance to the SoCG parties and sets out any issues that have arisen, reporting on the status of each issue, i.e. whether it is agreed, still under discussion or not agreed, and set out any remaining actions.

3. LIST OF STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

3.1.1. The parties which the Applicant has prepared an SoCG with are listed in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1 - List of SoCGs under preparation

Stakeholder
East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)
Environment Agency
Historic England (North-East and Yorkshire)
National Grid Carbon Limited (NGCL)
National Grid Electricity System Operator (NG ESO)
National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
National Highways
Natural England
Selby Area Internal Drainage Board (Selby IDB)
Selby District Council (SDC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)

3.1.2. The Applicant is engaging with NG EGO and NGET. Discussions have not progressed to the extent that we are submitting an SoCG on 11 November 2022, but we intend to submit SoCGs through the examination. We will keep the ExA updated in relation to these SoCGs.

3.1.3. Further detail about the current position of each SoCG can be found at Sections 4 and 5 of this Statement.

4. SUMMARY OF CURRENT POSITION

4.1.1. This section provides the current position of each SoCG.

4.1.2. Table 4.1 below provides a high-level position and where necessary includes further detail to aid understanding. The high-level positions used in the table are:

- Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed – The final SoCG has been signed by both parties and all matters are agreed.
- Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding – The final SoCG has been signed by both parties and there remain matters outstanding that the Applicant and the Other Party agree will not be resolved during the Examination.
- SoCG in draft – The SoCG has been drafted by the Applicant, it has been shared with the Other Party and comments have been provided. Discussion is ongoing to reach a ‘Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed’ or ‘Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding’.

Table 4.1 – Current Position of SoCGs

Document Reference	Party	Current Position
8.1.1	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NG ESO)	SoCG in draft but not yet submitted
8.1.2	National Grid Carbon Limited (NGCL)	SoCG in draft
8.1.3	Selby District Council (SDC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)	SoCG in draft
8.1.4	Environment Agency	SoCG in draft
8.1.5	Natural England	SoCG in draft
8.1.6	Historic England (North-East and Yorkshire)	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.7	National Highways	SoCG in draft
8.1.8	Selby Area Internal Drainage Board (Selby IDB)	SoCG in draft
8.1.9	East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)	SoCG in draft
8.1.10	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)	SoCG in draft but not yet submitted

5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1.1. This section of the Statement provides a summary of principal issues covered in the SoCGs and demonstrates where there is commonality in the topics or matters.
- 5.1.2. The table is presented in such a way to show topics covered within the various SoCGs and how these are relevant to each Other Party and a position for each topic as follows:

	Matter agreed
	Matter subject to further discussion
	Matter not agreed
	Matter not relevant

Table 5.1 - Table of Commonality at November 2022

Ref.	Party	Topics																		
		Environmental Permit	Planning Policy	Need for the Proposed Scheme	Climate Resilience	Population, Health & Socio-economics	Transport	Air quality	Noise and Vibration	Ecology	Landscape and Visual Impact	Heritage	Ground Conditions	Water Environment	Materials and Waste	Greenhouse Gases	Major Accidents and Disasters	Cumulative Effects	dDCO (incl. Requirements)	Protective Provisions
8.1.1	National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO)																			
8.1.2	National Grid Carbon Limited (NGCL)																			
8.1.3	Selby District Council (SDC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)																			

8.1.4	Environment Agency	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Grey
8.1.5	Natural England	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Green	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Yellow	Grey	Grey
8.1.6	Historic England (North-East and Yorkshire)	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
8.1.7	National Highways	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey
8.1.8	Selby Area Internal Drainage Board (IDB)	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
8.1.9	East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
8.1.10	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow