



COVER LETTER (27)

Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage

The Planning Act 2008, The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Document Reference Number: 8.2.26

Applicant: Drax Power Limited

PINS Reference: EN010120



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PUBLIC

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George Harrold
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13 June 2023

Dear Mr Harrold,

PINS Reference: EN010120

Document Reference: 8.2.26 Cover Letter (27) – Submission of Documents Requested for Deadline 8 of the Examination

Drax Power Station Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS)

1. We write on behalf of Drax Power Limited ('the Applicant') to provide the documents requested by the Examining Authority ('ExA') for Deadline 8 of the Examination.
2. This is in accordance with the request set out in the Rule 6 letter dated 13 December 2022 and as updated and confirmed in the Rule 8 letter dated 24 January 2023 and the further letters dated 27 February 2023 and 26 April 2023, and the recent request for further information in the ExA's Rule 17 letter dated 06 June 2023.
3. Accordingly, the following documents are enclosed with this submission:

Application Document Reference	PINS Document Reference (Most up to date submitted version)	Document Details	Date
1.3	REP7-001	Application Guide (Clean)	13 June 2023

Application Document Reference	PINS Document Reference (Most up to date submitted version)	Document Details	Date
1.3	REP7-002	Application Guide (Tracked)	13 June 2023
1.4	REP7-003	Application Document Tracker (Clean)	13 June 2023
1.4	REP7-004	Application Document Tracker (Tracked)	13 June 2023
3.1	REP6-005	Draft Development Consent Order (Rev 10)(Clean)	13 June 2023
3.1	REP6-006	Draft Development Consent Order Rev 10) (Tracked)	13 June 2023
3.1.5	N/A new document	Schedule of Changes to the Draft Development Consent Order	13 June 2023
4.1.1	REP7-005	Schedule of Negotiations and Power Sought (Clean)	13 June 2023
4.1.1	REP7-006	Schedule of Negotiations and Power Sought (Tracker)	13 June 2023
5.5	REP5-009	Other Consents and Licences (Clean)	13 June 2023
5.5	REP5-010	Other Consents and Licences (Tracked)	13 June 2023
6.3.6.5	REP2-034	ES Appendix 6.5 (Operational Phase Air Quality Results Tables: Ecological Receptors) (Clean)	13 June 2023
6.3.6.5	REP2-035	ES Appendix 6.5 (Operational Phase Air Quality Results Tables: Ecological Receptors) (Tracked)	13 June 2023
6.8.3.7	REP2-107	HRA Vol 3 Appendix 7 (SAC Habitat Monitoring) (Clean)	13 June 2023
6.8.3.7	REP2-107	HRA Vol 3 Appendix 7 (SAC Habitat Monitoring) (Tracked)	13 June 2023
8.1.2	REP-017	Statement of Common Ground between National Grid Carbon Limited and Drax Power Ltd	13 June 2023
8.1.3	REP5-015	Statement of Common Ground between The North Yorkshire Council and Drax Power Ltd (Rev 06)	13 June 2023
8.1.4	REP5-016	Statement of Common Ground between the Environment Agency and Drax Power Ltd	13 June 2023

Application Document Reference	PINS Document Reference (Most up to date submitted version)	Document Details	Date
8.1.5	REP5-017	Statement of Common Ground between Natural England and Drax Power Ltd	13 June 2023
8.1.7	REP4-012	Statement of Common Ground between National Highways and Drax Power Ltd	13 June 2023
8.1.9	REP7-012	Statement of Common Ground between East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Drax Power Ltd	13 June 2023
8.4	REP7-014	Statement of Commonality	13 June 2023
8.7	REP7-016	Sealed Development Consent Obligation (s106 Agreement)	13 June 2023
8.10.7	N/A new document	Applicant's Response to Issues Raised at Deadline 7	13 June 2023
8.17	N/A new document	Barn Hill Meadows SSSI Technical Note	13 June 2023
8.18.1	N/A new document	The Applicant's Pre-Hearing Position Statement on Outstanding Matters with The North Yorkshire Council	13 June 2023
8.19	N/A new document	Applicant's Responses to Rule 17 Questions (R17QA) from letter dated 6 June 2023	13 June 2023
8.20	N/A new document	Air Quality Technical Note 3	13 June 2023

In considering this documentation, please note the following:

4. The Application Document Tracker and Application Guide have been updated to reflect the latest status and list of documents submitted as part of the Examination process.
5. The draft DCO has been updated at Deadline 8 (Rev 10) to reflect changes arising from on-going discussions with stakeholders and to account for updates to certified documents. Document 3.1.5 – Schedule of Changes to the Draft Development Consent Order provides a summary of the changes and the reasons for the changes.
6. The Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought document has been updated to set out the engagement that the Applicant has undertaken since Deadline 7.
7. The Other Consents and Licences document has been updated at Deadline 8 to reflect the progress on the District Level Licencing for GCN with Natural England, and updates relating to the Environmental Permit.

8. The Applicant continues to engage with all SoCG parties, and submits the following updated Statement of Common Ground (SoCGs) to reflect the status of ongoing discussions with the applicable stakeholders at Deadline 8:
 - Statement of Common Ground between National Grid Carbon Limited and Drax Power Limited
 - Statement of Common Ground between The North Yorkshire Council and Drax Power Limited (Rev 06)
 - Statement of Common Ground between the Environment Agency and Drax Power Limited (Signed Version)
 - Statement of Common Ground between Natural England and Drax Power Limited (Signed Version)
 - Statement of Common Ground between National Highways and Drax Power Limited
 - Statement of Common Ground between East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Drax Power Limited
9. The Applicant provides an update on the progress with other Statements of Common Ground that are not submitted at Deadline 8 in Section 4 of the updated Statement of Commonality. The Statement of Commonality has been updated at Deadline 8 to reflect updates to SoCGs and the position more generally at this time.
10. The Section 106 Agreement has been agreed between the parties, and has been signed and sealed and is submitted at Deadline 8.
11. The National Policy Statement Compliance Tracker (EN-1 and EN-3) has not been updated at Deadline 8 because there are no changes to report.
12. The Applicant's comments on Interested Parties' submissions at Deadline 7 is provided in Document 8.10.7. With regard to the submission from Natural England, the Applicant notes that Natural England has confirmed that the issue of achieving a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) arising from the development has been resolved, subject to the requirements being adequately secured for all relevant issues. The Applicant confirms that a description of how BNG is being secured is provided in Section 1.2 of the BNG Assessment submitted at Deadline 6 (REP6-027) and suggests that this matter is now 'green' (not 'amber' as stated in the NE response submitted at Deadline 7). This is agreed with Natural England in the SoCG.
13. The Applicant also notes Natural England's comments provided in Table 1a of their Deadline 4 Response (REP4-041) with regards to agreed updates to the Habitats Regulations Assessment – Volume 3 – Appendix 7 (REP2-107) and Operational Phase Air Quality Assessment Results Tables: Ecological Receptors (AS-015). The Applicant submits updates to these two documents at Deadline 8 to make these changes. In the course of these updates, the Applicant has also identified that there have been a number of changes to baseline air quality data held on the Air Pollution Information System (APIS), as described in Document 8.20 - Air Quality Technical Note 3 (Rev 01) submitted at Deadline 8). This Technical Note ("Technical Note 3") provides a discussion of the changes to the air quality assessment resulting from the changes to the background data. The details and

discussion presented in the Technical Note demonstrate that these changes do not adversely affect the conclusions of the ES and overall result in reduced total pollutant concentrations and deposition. There has been insufficient time to reflect all these changes in the updated Operational Phase Air Quality Assessment Results Tables: Ecological Receptors (AS-015, Rev 03 submitted at Deadline 8) or other relevant documents such as the HRA Report. The Applicant intends to submit a final version of the Operational Phase Air Quality Assessment Results Tables: Ecological Receptors and HRA Report (and other relevant documents at Deadline 9, to ensure the updates to APIS are fully reflected prior to close of the Examination.

14. The Applicant has prepared Document 8.17 – Barn Hill Meadows Habitats and Soils Analysis Technical Note, and provided this to the NE on 30 May 2023 in advance of Deadline 8 for their consideration. The Technical Note includes a summary of the results of soil pH surveys of the SSSI. It also includes analysis of these to determine the appropriate critical load for assessing the impacts of acid deposition from the Proposed Scheme’s operational emissions to air. The Technical Note concludes that it is appropriate to use the ‘calcareous grassland’ acid deposition critical load for Barn Hill Meadows SSSI. With use of this critical load, acid deposition impacts from the Proposed Scheme including cumulatively with other plans and projects are below 1% of critical load. These impacts are therefore considered to be insignificant and will not lead to damage of the interest features of the Barn Hill Meadows SSSI. Natural England have agreed the contents of this Technical Note, and what it therefore means for the assessments of impacts to that SSSI, as reported in the SoCG.
15. As noted in paragraph 8, above, the Applicant continues to engage with The North Yorkshire Council on two outstanding matters relating to landscape and noise. At Deadline 8, the parties have not reached an agreement on these matters. The Applicant provides document 8.18.1 – The Applicant’s Pre-Hearing Position Statement on Outstanding Matters with The North Yorkshire Council on these issues, to help inform the ExA’s formulation of the agenda for the forthcoming hearings.
16. The ExA published its Rule 17 Questions on 6 June 2023 and the Applicant has prepared responses to the applicable questions within Document 8.19.
17. The Applicant has prepared Document 8.20, which provides Air Quality Technical Note 3. This document contains a recent update to the background pollutant concentrations and critical loads provided by Air Pollution Information System (APIS) for a number of the designated sites within the 15km study area for air quality. There are a substantial number of updates of the data held by APIS since the submission of the Applicant’s ES in May 2022. This Technical Note provides a discussion of the changes to the air quality assessment resulting from the changes to the background data. Air Quality Technical Note 3 demonstrates that these changes do not adversely affect the conclusions of the ES and overall result in reduced total pollutant concentrations and deposition to the relevant designated site. There has been insufficient time to reflect all these changes in the updated Operational Phase Air Quality Assessment Results Tables: Ecological Receptors (AS-015, Rev03 submitted at Deadline 8) or other relevant documents such as the HRA Report. The Applicant intends to submit a final version of the Operational Phase Air Quality Assessment Results Tables: Ecological Receptors and HRA Report (and other relevant

documents) at Deadline 9, to ensure the updates to APIS are fully reflected prior to close of the Examination.

18. Enclosed with this letter are the above documents via the file upload facility on the project application website¹, as agreed with the Inspectorate via the Rule 6 letter on 13 December 2022.
19. We trust the above and enclosed are helpful. However, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any queries regarding these documents.

Yours sincerely



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¹ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/drax-bioenergy-with-carbon-capture-and-storage-project>