

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [NI Enquiries; DraxBECCS; \[REDACTED\] enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:NI Enquiries; DraxBECCS; [REDACTED] enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Re: EN010120 – Urgent Concerns: Severe Risk to Life of Drax BECCS Project - Request for Immediate Attention  
**Date:** 04 July 2023 17:46:53

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**Planning Inspectorate,  
cc, F.A.O Kathryn Richardson, Environment Manager at the Environment Agency,**

**Urgent Concerns: Severe Risk to Life of Drax BECCS Project - Request for Immediate Attention**

I am writing as an early interested party in the planning inspection of Drax BECCS project.

I wish Drax, the planning inspectorate and the Environment Agency to urgently address the severe safety risks associated with Drax's proposed project, specifically concerning CO2 capture and storage (CCS).

The Lake Nyos disaster in 1986 stands as a haunting reminder of the devastating impact of CO2 leakage. The release of a massive volume of CO2 from the volcanic lake resulted in the tragic loss of over 1,700 lives. Asphyxiation and suffocation claimed these innocent lives, as the heavy CO2 gas clung to the ground and engulfed nearby communities. This harrowing incident underscores the lethal nature of CO2 when released in significant quantities, posing an imminent threat to human life.

**It is deeply alarming that Drax has failed to acknowledge the Lake Nyos incident in their planning application.** Any responsible entity involved in CO2 management (including planning and permit approval), especially on the scale proposed by Drax, should possess a comprehensive understanding of the potential risks associated with CO2 leakage. This omission is akin to a shipbuilder purposefully neglecting the lessons learned from the Titanic disaster, highlighting a lack of commitment to safety and wellbeing.

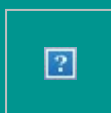
Furthermore, the scale of CO2 storage proposed by Drax, surpassing the lake's CO2 tonnage by some order of magnitude, significantly amplifies the potential consequences. Given the size of the proposed project and the grave threats it poses to public safety and the environment, the Planning Inspectorate bears an immense responsibility. Thorough assessment of the possible death rate resulting from a CO2 leak, or an impact model demonstrating the potential consequences, must be demanded from Drax.

I urge you to thoroughly assess the potential risks and prioritise public safety before proceeding with the project. The tragic loss of life at Lake Nyos serves as a stark reminder of the catastrophic consequences that can result from CO2 leakage. Our communities cannot afford to repeat such a disaster. Rigorous evaluation, verification of safety measures, and stringent risk mitigation strategies must be in place to prevent a tragedy on a similar or greater scale.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
Mike Tranter

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 11:34 AM  
**From:** "NI Mail Distribution" <ni.mail.distribution@notifications.service.gov.uk>  
**To:** mikertranter@myself.com  
**Subject:** EN010120 – Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage project



**Application by Drax Power Limited for an**

# **Order Granting Development Consent for the Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage project**

**Planning Act 2008; The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 8(3), 9 and 13; and The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 – Regulations 10 – 16**

**Notice of variation to the Examination Timetable following acceptance of change request for examination, and Notification of hearings**

Dear Sir/ Madam

Unique Reference: 20032320

Please find below a link to the Examining Authority's letter providing information about Procedural Decisions taken following the acceptance of the Applicant's change request, including revisions to the Examination Timetable and notification of hearings:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010120-001424>

You can also view this document under the 'Documents' tab on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website:

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

Yours faithfully,

Drax Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage Case Team  
National Infrastructure Planning

Helpline: 0303 444 5000

Email: [DraxBECCS@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:DraxBECCS@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Web: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/> (National Infrastructure Planning)

Web: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate) (The Planning Inspectorate)

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