



STATEMENT OF COMMONALITY

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 Limited (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 and will be the subject of separate consent applications. A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in **Chapter 2 (Site and Project Description)** of the Environmental Statement (APP-038), as amended by the Change Request - **Proposed Changes Application Report (AS-045)** and **Change Request - 8.15 Second Change Application Report (AS-126)**.
- 1.1.4. This Statement and the Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) 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 or not agreed.
- 1.1.5. The Applicant has submitted final agreed versions of all SoCGs at Deadline 10 other than those with East Riding of Yorkshire Council, National Grid Carbon Limited and National Grid Electricity Transmission which the Applicant considers to be the final position, but has been unable to secure a signature from the relevant stakeholder/s.
- 1.1.6. This Statement has been prepared to provide the Examining Authority ('ExA') with the final position on SoCG between the Applicant and prescribed consultees, statutory undertakers and interested parties (Other Parties) in relation to the Scheme.

2. STRUCTURE OF STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

- 2.1.1. To ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed 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;
 - 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 or not agreed. Previous iterations of the SoCGs also noted where matters were still under discussion, albeit these are now resolved at the close of the Examination; and
 - Section 5 provides a summary of the final position at the close of the Examination,

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 which have been prepared

Stakeholder
East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)
Environment Agency
Goole and Airmyn Internal Drainage Board (Goole and Airmyn IDB)
Historic England (North-East and Yorkshire) (Historic England)
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)
The North Yorkshire County Council (NYC)

3.1.2. Note, NYC is a new single council which was launched on 1 April 2023, replacing the current county council and seven district and borough councils in North Yorkshire, including Selby District Council (SDC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). The SoCG with NYC therefore constitutes a further revision of the previous SoCG with SDC and NYCC.

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

4. SUMMARY OF FINAL POSITION

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

4.1.2. Table 4.1 below provides a high-level position as follows:

- 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.
- Final Unsigned SoCG all matters agreed – The final SoCG has been signed by the Applicant. However the Applicant has not been able to secure a signature on behalf of the other party. The Applicant understands that the SoCG accurately states both parties' positions, namely that all matters are agreed.
- Final Unsigned SoCG with matters outstanding – The final SoCG has been signed by the Applicant. However the Applicant has not been able to secure a signature on behalf of the other party. The Applicant understands that the SoCG accurately states both parties' positions, namely that there remain matters outstanding that the Applicant and the Other Party agree will not be resolved during the Examination.

Table 4.1 – Final Position of SoCGs

Document Reference	Party	Final Position
8.1.1	NG ESO	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.2	NGCL	Final Unsigned SoCG with matters outstanding
8.1.3	NYC	Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding
8.1.4	Environment Agency	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.5	Natural England	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.6	Historic England	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed

8.1.7	National Highways	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.8	Selby IDB	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.9	ERYC	Final Unsigned SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.10	NGET	Final Unsigned SoCG all matters agreed
8.1.11	Goole and Airmyn IDB	Final signed SoCG all matters agreed

4.1.3. The Applicant can provide the following update:

- A final signed SoCG with NG ESO is submitted at Deadline 10, confirming that all matters are agreed;
- A final SoCG with NGCL is submitted at Deadline 10. This has been signed by the Applicant. However the Applicant has not been able to secure a signature on behalf of NGCL. The Applicant understands that the SoCG accurately states both parties' positions, namely that all matters are agreed other than whether protective provisions for NGCL should be included in the dDCO;
- A final signed SoCG with NYC is submitted at Deadline 10, confirming the matters which are not agreed (noise and vibration, and landscape, design and visual impact) and that all other matters are agreed;
- A final signed SoCG with National Highways is submitted at Deadline 10, confirming that all matters are agreed;
- A final SoCG with ERYC is submitted at Deadline 10. This has been signed by the Applicant. However the Applicant has not been able to secure a signature on behalf of ERYC. The Applicant understands that the SoCG accurately states both parties' positions, namely that all matters are agreed;
- A final SoCG with NGET is submitted at Deadline 10. This has been signed by the Applicant. However the Applicant has not been able to secure a signature on behalf of NGET. The Applicant understands that the SoCG accurately states both parties' positions, namely that all matters are agreed; and
- The SoCGs with Historic England, Selby IDB, Goole and Airmyn IDB, the EA and Natural England have previously been finalised and signed.

5. FINAL 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 not agreed
	Matter not relevant

Table 5.1 – Table of Commonality at close of the Examination (17 July 2023)

Ref.	Party	Topics																					
		Environmental Permit	Planning history & current proposals	Planning Policy	Need, principle and alternatives	Climate Change Resilience	Population, Health & Socio-economics	Transport	Air quality	Noise and Vibration	Ecology	Design, 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	Matters relating to Overhead Lines	Other Consents and Licenses
8.1.1	NG ESO																						
8.1.2	NGCL																						
8.1.3	NYC																						
8.1.4	Environment Agency																						
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