



STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND - HISTORIC ENGLAND: 8.1.11

DECARBONISATION

Cory Decarbonisation Project

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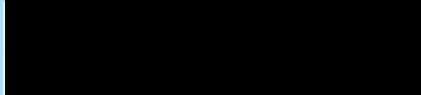
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Date	06/09/2024	18/09/2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

- 1.1.1. A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced during the application process for a Development Consent Order (DCO) and is prepared jointly by the applicant and another party.
- 1.1.2. Paragraph 007 of the Department for Ministry for Housing Communities (MHCLG) Guidance entitled 'Planning Act 2008: Examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects' (30 April 2024) (hereafter referred to as MHCLG Guidance)¹ describes a SoCG as follows:
- “A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree, or indeed disagree. A SoCG helps to ensure that the evidence at the examination focuses on the material differences between the main parties and therefore makes best use of the lines of questioning pursued by the Examining Authority”.*
- 1.1.3. This SoCG has been prepared in accordance with the MHCLG Guidance. The aim of a SoCG is to assist the Examining Authority in examining the DCO by providing an understanding of the status of discussions or negotiations between the applicant and the other party. The effective use of SoCG aid an efficient examination process.
- 1.1.4. A SoCG may be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate either prior to the start of, or during, an Examination and is updated as necessary, or as requested, during the Examination.
- 1.1.5. This SoCG has been prepared by WSP UK Limited on behalf of Cory Environmental Holdings Limited (the Applicant). It accompanies the application for a DCO (the DCO Application) in relation to the Cory Decarbonisation Project in Bexley, London. The DCO Application has been made in accordance with Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and submitted to the Secretary The DCO, if granted, would authorise the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning the Cory Decarbonisation Project (the 'Proposed Scheme'). The Proposed Scheme is to be located at Norman Road, Belvedere in the London Borough of Bexley (LBB) (National Grid Reference/NGR 549572, 180512).
- 1.1.6. The Proposed Scheme is described in **Chapter 2: Site and the Proposed Scheme (Volume 1)** of the **ES (Planning Inspectorate Reference APP-051)** and includes:
- The Carbon Capture Facility (including its associated supporting plant and ancillary infrastructure);
 - A Proposed Jetty to allow for export of the captured carbon by vessel;
 - A Mitigation and Enhancement Area;

- Temporary Construction Compounds; and
- Utilities Connections and Site Access Works.

1.2. INTRODUCTION TO HISTORIC ENGLAND

- 1.2.1. This SoCG has been prepared between Historic England and the Applicant (jointly referred to as the Parties) in relation to the application for a DCO.
- 1.2.2. Historic England have been consulted to discuss the possible impacts between the proposed development and the historic environment.
- 1.2.3. Historic England is a statutory body as prescribed under Section 42(1)(a) (duty to consult) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended). Advice and consultation responses are typically provided as part of non-statutory consultation and engagement, in response to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report², as part of statutory consultation (including on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)³ and participation in the Examination process.

1.3. STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND STRUCTURE

- 1.3.1. Section 2 summarises all engagement to date of relevance to this SoCG and Section 3 details whether matters are Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion between the Parties.
- 1.3.2. In respect of matters relevant to the Proposed Scheme, but not referred to in this SoCG, Historic England has no further comments to make at this point. It may have further or additional comments to make, particularly if further information about the Proposed Scheme becomes available.
- 1.3.3. The SoCG is a document that will evolve during the Examination stage and will conclude with a version that confirms the Parties' positions on relevant matters before the close of the Examination.

2. RECORD OF ENGAGEMENT

- 2.1.1. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between the Applicant and Historic England in relation to the Proposed Scheme is outlined in **Table 2-1** below. There has been email correspondence between the Parties to discuss the sharing of information, arrangement of meetings and to share comment on draft documentation, but this table reflects the key meetings and emails of note that have taken place between the Parties.
- 2.1.2. Historic England did not submit a formal Relevant Representation response for the Proposed Scheme and no detailed engagement has been deemed necessary.

Table 2-1 – Schedule of Meetings and Correspondence during the Pre-Application Stage

Date	Form of Correspondence	Summary of Matters Dealt with in Correspondence/ Meeting
26 th May 2023	Scoping Opinion	The Planning Inspectorate’s EIA Scoping Opinion ⁴ contained comments from Historic England. Those comments and the Applicant’s responses are shown in Appendix 4-2: Scoping Opinion Response (Volume 3) (Planning Inspectorate Reference APP-076) .

- 2.1.3. It is agreed **Table 2-1** is an accurate record of the key meetings, consultation undertaken between the Applicant and Historic England in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG as at the date of this SoCG.

3. ISSUES

3.1. TERMINOLOGY

3.1.1. In the tables in this section of this SoCG:

- “Agreed” indicates where the issue has been resolved;
- “Under Discussion” indicates where these points are the subject of ongoing discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the Parties; and
- “Not Agreed” indicates a final position of the Parties that is Not Agreed.

3.1.2. It can be taken that any matters not specifically referred to in this section of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to the Interested Parties representation and therefore have not been considered in this document.

3.2. MATTERS AGREED

3.2.1. **Table 3-1** below details the matters Agreed with Historic England.

Table 3-1 – Matters Agreed

Date	Form of Correspondence	Details of Matters Agreed
26 th May 2023	Scoping Opinion	Historic England agreed the following with regards to the approach and methodology for the cultural heritage assessment as presented in the EIA Scoping Report ² : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scope of the design, mitigation and enhancement measures. • The description of potential likely significant effects. • The elements proposed to be scoped-in and scoped out of the EIA.

3.3. MATTERS UNDER DISCUSSION

3.3.1. No matters remain Under Discussion.

3.4. MATTERS NOT AGREED

3.4.1. No matters remain that are Not Agreed.

4. REFERENCES

- ¹ UK Government. 2008. 'Planning Act 2008: Examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-examination-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects>
- ² Cory Environmental Holdings Limited. (2023). 'Environment Impact Assessment Scoping Report: Cory Decarbonisation Project'. Available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010128/EN010128-000021-EN010128%20-%20Scoping%20Report.pdf>
- ³ Cory Environmental Holdings Limited. (2023). 'Preliminary Environmental Information Report: Cory Decarbonisation Project'. Available at: <https://corydecarbonisation.co.uk/document-library/>
- ⁴ Planning Inspectorate. (2023). 'Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion: Cory Decarbonisation Project.' Available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010128/EN010128-000026-EN010128%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion.pdf>