



Meeting note

Project name	Rivenhall IWMF and Energy Centre
File reference	EN010138
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	14 August 2023
Meeting with	Indaver Rivenhall Ltd
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project Update Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

The Proposed Development

The Applicant explained that due to changes in the technology available, it is now possible to increase the output to 65MW without any additional significant environmental impacts.

The Applicant is seeking consent for the following works:

Aim: An extension to the Rivenhall Integrated Waste Management Facility with the effect that, once extended, the waste management facility will have a gross installed generating capacity of above 50MW.

Work No. 1 - To achieve this, mechanical modifications to the actuated steam turbine inlet control valve would be required to allow steam capacity to be increased.

Work No. 2 – Installation of unrestricted actuated steam turbine inlet control valves with a capacity up to 65MW.

The Applicant would be seeking consent for both works 1 and 2 as alternatives. It appreciates that it would not be able to produce an output of 65MW until the DCO is granted. The Applicant confirmed there would be no changes to the external appearance of the IWMF.

The Applicant believes that the works would be “engineering operations” as set out in the Planning Act 2008, s.31 and 32. A note was prepared by the Applicant and circulated to attendees in advance of the meeting setting out how and why the Proposed Development

constitutes a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. The Inspectorate agreed to notify the Applicant if it has any serious concerns with the overall approach.

The Inspectorate queried the expected completion date of the Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) build. The first waste is to be received in September 2025, which is on target. The handover from the EPC contractor is planned for April 2026. Finally, the aim is to generate electricity by the first quarter of 2026.

EIA Scoping Opinion

The EIA Scoping Opinion was published on 6 June 2023.

In response to the Scoping Opinion, the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) will contain further detail relating to noise and vibration detail in relation to the efficiency of the steam turbine.

The Applicant stated that the local authorities (LAs) indicated that they agreed with the Scoping Opinion and that the LAs have appointed Jacobs to review the PEIR.

Matters Arising From The Consultation

The Applicant stated that all activities had been carried out in accordance with the Statement of Common Ground. Five public events were undertaken, attended by a total of 117 people.

A sixth event is planned to be carried out in Witham on 18 August 2023, following a request from Witham Town Council. Leaflets are being distributed to 11,000 homes.

Additionally, 10 open days have been organised in the Information Hub. To date, 10 people have visited the Information Hub at the development site with two additional groups scheduled to visit.

The Applicant has identified that the main objections in the surrounding location are traffic and air quality concerns, rather than the DCO proposal itself. The Applicant is responding directly to comments received and these responses will be included in the Consultation Report.

The consultation closes at midnight on 23 August 2023.

Next Steps and Timescales

The Applicant is still aiming for a submission date in late October 2023 to early November 2023. However, the Applicant would also be interested in receiving draft document feedback prior to submission.

The Applicant suggested providing draft documents on 6 September 2023 with a view for feedback to be provided by 18 October 2023. The Inspectorate advised that a timeframe of six to eight weeks is usually required but this would be discussed internally following the meeting.

The Applicant stated that it is planning to provide the following documents: Draft DCO, Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement Project Description Chapter.

The Inspectorate requested the Explanatory Memorandum in addition to these documents to help explain the approach employed by the Applicant. The Applicant will also provide the Planning Description to aid in the Inspectorate's review.

The Applicant stated that it will also be sharing the documents with the LAs. While the Inspectorate supports this approach with LAs, it advised the Applicant to be aware of potential confusion, which could be caused by providing draft documents, which are then superseded based on feedback provided by the Inspectorate.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that, should the submission be delayed, they should consider the resource implications for local authorities in responding to Adequacy of Consultation requests.

The Inspectorate noted that the Examination for the Slough Multifuel Facility DCO lasted approximately four months and that, while it would look to deal with this on an accelerated schedule, it is not possible at this stage to confirm that is achievable.

AoB

The Inspectorate advised that the GIS shapefile will need to be provided at least ten working days before submission as set out in section seven of Advice Note Seven.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- The Inspectorate is to explore resourcing availability to determine how long a review of draft documentation could take.
- The Applicant is to prepare the documents they wish to submit to the Inspectorate, ready for review.