

Date: 1 October 2024
Your Ref: EN010166
Our Ref: 17158



69 Carter Lane
London
EC4V 5EQ

Mabon Evans
Case Officer
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

By email to: ConnahsQuay@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Mr Evans,

EN010166 – THE CONNAH'S QUAY LOW CARBON POWER PROJECT – LAND AT, AND IN THE VICINITY OF THE CONNAH'S QUAY POWER STATION SITE, KELSTERTON ROAD, CONNAH'S QUAY, DEESIDE, CH5 4PB

NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 46 'DUTY TO NOTIFY SECRETARY OF STATE OF PROPOSED APPLICATION' OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

I write on behalf of Uniper UK Limited (company number: 02796628), whose registered office is Compton House, 2300 The Crescent, Birmingham Business Park, Birmingham, England, B37 7YE in connection with the Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power Project (the 'Proposed Development').

Uniper UK Limited (the 'Applicant') is a UK-based company, wholly owned by Uniper SE ('Uniper') through Uniper Holding GmbH ('Uniper'). The Applicant will be the lead developer and operator of the Proposed Development.

Uniper is an international energy company with activities in more than 40 countries and roughly 7,000 employees worldwide. In the UK, Uniper owns and operates a flexible generation portfolio of seven power stations, a fast-cycle gas storage facility and two high pressure gas pipelines, from Theddlethorpe to Killingholme and from Blyborough to Cottam.

The Applicant is proposing to submit an application (the 'Proposed Application') seeking development consent pursuant to Section 37 'Applications for orders granting development consent' of the Planning Act 2008 (the 'PA 2008') from the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Energy Security and Net Zero for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Proposed Development on land at, and in the vicinity of, the Connah's Quay Power Station, Kelsterton Road, Connah's Quay, Deeside. The Site includes land within the administrative area of Flintshire County Council in North Wales and also within the administrative area of Cheshire West and Chester Council in England.

The Proposed Application will seek development consent for the demolition of an existing Gas Treatment Plant ('GTP') and above ground installation ('AGI'), store buildings, and contractors' facilities on site and the construction, operation and maintenance of a Combined Cycle Gas Turbine ('CCGT') electricity generating station of around 1,100 megawatts ('MW') and up to 1,380 MW net electrical output with Carbon Capture Plant ('CCP'); water abstraction and discharge and electricity

connections; a carbon dioxide connection to the HyNet Carbon Dioxide ('CO₂') Pipeline Project; AGIs; utilities; construction laydown areas; access works; and other associated and ancillary development.

The Proposed Development Site (the 'Site') comprises a number of areas, including the 'Main Site', encompassing the Connah's Quay Power Station Site and which would be the location for the new CCGT with CCP power station, and a number of corridors of land for electrical grid connection, carbon dioxide and water connections, and other areas of land for construction laydown, biodiversity enhancement area and access works.

The Proposed Development comprises the following elements:

- a) Demolition works at the existing Power Station Site, including demolition of the existing GTP, AGI, store buildings and contractors' facilities.
- b) A CCGT electricity generating station of around 1,100 MW and up to 1,380 MW net electrical output with CCP and ancillary buildings and structures within the Main Site. The CCGT with CCP plant will comprise up to two new 'Trains'.
- c) Associated Development, including:
 - Proposed Carbon Dioxide ('CO₂') AGI – which will be located within the Main Site.
 - Repurposed CO₂ Connection Corridor – the export of CO₂ will utilise approximately 3 km of an existing natural gas pipeline. It includes a buffer zone of up to 100 m width. Some physical works may be required to the Repurposed CO₂ Connection within the Main Site to connect to the Proposed CO₂ AGI and within the Proposed CO₂ Connection Corridor to connect to the Proposed CO₂ Connection. Studies are ongoing to determine the need for and nature of any physical works within the Repurposed CO₂ Connection Corridor.
 - Proposed CO₂ Connection Corridor – captured CO₂ emissions from the Proposed Development will be discharged from the Repurposed CO₂ Connection Corridor, via a new circa 350 metre pipeline spur (the Proposed CO₂ Connection) into the proposed Flint AGI (which is part of the proposed HyNet CO₂ Pipeline Project) and then into the HyNet CO₂ Pipeline.
 - Water Connection Corridor – cooling water for the Proposed Development will be abstracted from and discharged to the River Dee, in-line with the current process for the existing Power Station. This may require new infrastructure or use of existing infrastructure.
 - An Electrical Connection Corridor – a new connection will be required from the CCGT plant to the Applicant's existing banking compound. The existing electrical connection from the Applicant's banking compound is expected to be used to connect the Proposed Development to the existing Connah's Quay Substation located south-east of the Main Site.
 - Construction Laydown and Indicative Enhancement Area.
 - Accesses and access works.
- d) Further associated development comprising such other works or operations as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the Proposed Development.

It is anticipated that the Proposed Application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS'), acting on behalf of the SoS in Quarter 1 2025.

This letter represents the Applicant's notification to the SoS of the Proposed Application pursuant to Section 46 'Duty to notify secretary of state of proposed application' of the PA 2008.

Section 42 'Duty to consult' of the PA 2008 requires prospective applicants for development consent to consult on their proposed application with those persons specified in the PA 2008 and in regulations made pursuant to the PA 2008. The Applicant will commence consultation pursuant to Section 42 by issuing a letter (the 'Consultation Letter') accompanied by consultation documents (the 'Consultation Documents') to the persons specified in the PA 2008 and in regulations made pursuant to the PA 2008 on or around 2 October 2024.

A notice pursuant to Section 48 'Duty to publicise' of the PA 2008 will also be published as follows:

- The Times – 3 October 2024
- London Gazette – 3 October 2024
- Lloyds List – 3 October 2024
- Fishing News – 3 October 2024
- Deeside.com – 3 and 10 October 2024
- The Leader – 3 and 10 October 2024
- Chester Standard – 3 and 10 October 2024

The Proposed Development is 'EIA development' for the purposes of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 'EIA Regulations'). Accordingly, the Applicant has notified the SoS in writing under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations that it intends to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of the Proposed Development and this will form part of the Proposed Application for development consent.

In accordance with Regulation 13 'Pre-application publicity under Section 48 (duty to publicise)' of EIA Regulations, the Applicant will send a copy of the Section 48 Notice to the relevant consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with EIA Regulation 11(1)(c) on or around 2 October 2024.

The consultation period will formally commence on 8 October 2024. The deadline stated in the Consultation Letter (and on the Section 48 Notice) for the receipt of comments and representations on the Proposed Application is **11:59pm on 19 November 2024**.

Pursuant to Section 46 of the PA 2008, the Applicant is required to supply the SoS with the information that it intends to provide to consultees under Section 42 of the PA 2008 on or before commencing consultation under that section. The Consultation Documents that are to be provided to the persons specified in the PA 2008 and in regulations made pursuant to the PA 2008 (and other 'non-prescribed persons') will be accessible via the consultation website under the 'Documents' tab: <https://uniperuk.consulting/cqlcp/> and include:

- A plan showing the extent of the Site edged in red and labelled as 'Indicative Site Boundary (Figure 3-1 of the PEIR);
- the Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR');
- the Non-Technical Summary ('NTS') of the PEIR;
- a Consultation Newsletter;
- a Consultation Brochure;
- a Consultation Feedback Form;
- a Consultation Poster;
- the Statement of Community Consultation;
- Consultation Adverts; and

- the Section 48 Notice that is being published.

The Consultation Documents, along with example versions of the Consultation Letters can be downloaded using the link below to a secure fileshare site:

<https://dwd.ctit.co/url/dsbrsexn2my3fa2n>

Please note that the Welsh language translation of the PEIR NTS will not be available to view and download from the fileshare site until 7 October 2024.

Noting the requirement to disclose details of the use of artificial intelligence ('AI') in materials provided to PINS (Planning Inspectorate Guidance: 'Use of artificial intelligence in case work evidence', 6 September 2024), the Applicant confirms that it has not knowingly or intentionally used generative AI to produce any of its text, drawings or visualisations used within the Consultation Documents.

The Applicant is aware that on 20 September 2024, PINS released an number of updates to its advice pages, including new advice pages. Having reviewed the advice pages, the Applicant notes that there is now a requirement for a 'Commitments Register' (Planning Inspectorate Guidance: 'Nationally Significant infrastructure Projects: Commitments Register', 20 September 2024) to be submitted at various milestones of a project, including at the PEIR stage. While the advice is non-statutory, it is drawn from good practice and applicants and others are encouraged to follow PINS' recommendations.

The Applicant's project team has recently completed the PEIR for the statutory consultation on the Proposed Development, which as confirmed above, will formally commence on 8 October. Due to the timing of publication of this new advice page, together with the significant and time-consuming work which would need to go into preparing a meaningful Commitments Register, the Applicant does not consider that it would be practical to submit a Commitments Register to PINS ahead of the start of the statutory consultation (and the PEIR being made available). The Applicant will however prepare a Commitments Register for submission to PINS at the next applicable project milestone.

I look forward to receiving acknowledgement of the Applicant's notification to the SoS of the proposed application pursuant to Section 46 'Duty to notify secretary of state of proposed application' of the PA 2008. In the meantime, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact with myself or my colleague Louise Braine ([REDACTED]@dwd-ltd.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Geoff Bullock
Joint Managing Director & Head of Planning
DWD – on behalf of Uniper UK Limited

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