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2 The Square  
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer 0303 444 5000  
Services: Riverhumbergaspipeline@pins.gsi.gov.uk  
e-mail:

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN060004

Date: 22 July 2015

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 88 and the Infrastructure  
Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rules 4 and 6**

**Application by National Grid Gas plc for an Order Granting Development  
Consent for the River Humber Gas Pipeline Replacement Project**

**Notice of Preliminary Meeting, availability of relevant representations and  
appointment of the Examining Authority**

The Secretary of State has appointed me to act as the Examining Authority (ExA) to carry out an examination of the above application by National Grid Gas plc (see **Annex F**).

This letter is an invitation to the Preliminary Meeting to discuss the examination procedure and contains a number of supporting annexes. I would like to thank those of you who submitted relevant representations. These representations have assisted me when preparing my proposals for how to examine this application.

**Date of meeting:** Wednesday, 9 September 2015

**Venue Open:** 9.30am

**Meeting begins:** 10.00am

**Venue:** Mercure Hull Royal Hotel, 170 Ferensway, East Yorkshire, Hull HU1 3UF

**Access and parking:** Hull Railway Station and several pay and display car parks are close to the venue. Detail: [http://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/hu1\\_3uf/](http://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/hu1_3uf/)

## The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The Preliminary Meeting is held to enable views to be put to me about the way in which the application is to be examined. It is important to appreciate that this meeting deals only with procedure, and not the merits of the application. The merits of the application will only be considered once the examination starts after the Preliminary Meeting has closed.

The Planning Inspectorate will send you a copy of my procedural decision as to how the application is to be examined as soon as practicable after the meeting.

I wish to run a fair, efficient and effective meeting so that all relevant views can be heard. As such, I strongly encourage groups of individuals who have similar views on the procedure to choose one representative to speak for the group.

The agenda for the meeting is in **Annex B**. This has been set following my initial assessment of the principal issues arising on the application. That assessment is set out in **Annex C**. As a result of this assessment I wish to hear at the meeting from the applicant, interested parties, statutory parties and local authorities where they consider changes may be needed to the draft timetable set out in **Annex D**.

Up to date information about the project and the examination can be obtained from:

<<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/river-humber-gas-pipeline-replacement-project/>>

This is the address from which I will make copies of all future communications and examination documents available to the public.

Further information is given in Advice Note 8.4, which is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website ( <http://bit.ly/1Vtc35I> ).

## Attending the Preliminary Meeting

If you wish to attend the Preliminary Meeting please write, email or telephone the Planning Inspectorate, using the address and contact details set out at the front of this letter marking correspondence for the attention of Jackie Anderson, Case Manager. We need to receive your confirmation **by Wednesday 2 September 2015**. Please also refer to **Annex A** for administrative arrangements for this meeting.

It will help the management of the meeting and benefit everyone if you also:

- Tell us whether you wish to speak at the meeting and on which agenda items, listing points you wish to make; and
- Notify us of any special needs you may have (eg Disabled access, hearing loop etc.)

The Preliminary Meeting provides a useful introduction to the examination process. I will use it to make procedural decisions that will affect everyone participating in the examination. The meeting provides you with an opportunity to have your say about procedural issues before these decisions are finalised. If you intend to play an active part in the examination or you have questions about procedure it is useful to attend

the meeting. However, please note that you are not required to attend the Preliminary Meeting in order to participate in the examination. If you are an interested party you will still be able to make written representations and participate in any hearings that are arranged. Should you no longer wish to be an interested party and do not wish to be involved in the examination process, please notify the case manager of this in writing.

### **After the Preliminary Meeting**

Shortly after the Preliminary Meeting you will be sent a letter setting out the timetable for the examination. The audio recording and a note of the meeting will also be published on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Interested parties have the right to request an open floor hearing. Any other issue specific hearings are at the discretion of the ExA and will be arranged if I feel that consideration of oral representations would ensure an issue is adequately examined. My examination will comprise written representations about the proposal and any oral representations made at the hearings in addition to consideration of the project documents, policy and legal positions, site inspections and any other matters I consider to be relevant and important.

All relevant and important matters will be taken into account when I make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change (DECC), who will take the final decision in this case.

### **Procedural decisions made by the ExA under ss89(3) and 93(1) of the Planning Act 2008**

I have made some preliminary procedural decisions. These include the setting of deadlines for the agreement and submission of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG); the notification by interested parties of the wish to be heard at an open floor hearing; the notification by statutory parties, or a local authority without direct responsibility in the proposed development area, of the wish to be considered an interested party; requests for the provision of further information and the acceptance of other information from the applicant. These procedural decisions are all set out in full at **Annex G**.

### **Your status in the examination**

This letter has been sent to you because you (or the body you represent) fall within one of the categories in s88(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).

If you have made a "relevant representation", have a legal interest in the land affected by the proposal, or are a relevant local authority, you have a formal status as an interested party in the examination process.

Interested parties will receive notifications from the Planning Inspectorate about the examination throughout the process and may make written and oral submissions regarding the proposal.

If you are a prescribed consultee (i.e. body specified in the relevant regulations supporting the PA 2008) but have not made a relevant representation you will not

automatically be an interested party. However, following the Preliminary Meeting, you will have a further opportunity to notify the Planning Inspectorate that you wish to be treated as an interested party.

If you are not sure whether you are an interested party, please contact the case manager using the details at the top of this letter. Information regarding the formal status of interested parties and how you can get involved in the process is set out in the Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 8 on the National Infrastructure Planning website (<http://bit.ly/1zdsVW5>).

### **Award of costs**

I also draw your attention to the possibility of the award of costs against interested parties who behave unreasonably. You should be aware of the relevant cost guidance that applies to National Infrastructure Projects. The DCLG Guidance "Awards of costs; examinations of applications for development consent orders" is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website (<http://bit.ly/1ODUUFi>).

### **Management of Information**

The Planning Inspectorate has a commitment to transparency. Therefore, all information submitted for this Project (if accepted) and any record of advice which has been provided, is recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information has been protected in accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Information Charter.

I look forward to working with all parties in the examination of this Application.

Yours faithfully

*Jeremy Aston*

**Examining Authority**

### **Annexes**

- A** Administrative arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting
- B** Agenda for the Preliminary Meeting
- C** Initial assessment of Principal Issues
- D** Draft timetable for examination of the Application
- E** Availability of Examination Documents
- F** Notice of appointment of Examining Authority
- G** Procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the National Infrastructure Planning website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

### **Administrative arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting**

On arrival at the venue you will be asked to register your name and any unique reference number with staff of the Planning Inspectorate. Priority will be given to the applicant and those registered as interested parties, statutory parties, local authorities and invited persons before seating is allocated to other members of the public. I may exercise my discretion to permit any person, in addition to those who are entitled to take part, to participate in the meeting.

**If you wish to make any submissions on matters not set out in the agenda**, please write to Jackie Anderson, Case Manager, setting out the submissions that you wish to make **by Wednesday 2 September 2015**. I will attempt to accommodate reasonable requests and will alter the agenda on opening the Preliminary Meeting if I consider this will assist the discussion of the procedure for the examination.

A note will be taken of the Preliminary Meeting. This will be published on our website and made available at the locations listed in **Annex E** as soon as practicable after the meeting. Please note that an audio recording of the meeting will also be taken and made available on the website as soon as practicable after the meeting.

The Planning Inspectorate will send you a copy of the procedural decision as to how the application is to be examined as soon as practicable after the meeting.

## Agenda for the Preliminary Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 9 September 2015

**Meeting Start Time:** 10:00 am (Venue open from 9:30am)

**Venue:** Mercure Hull Royal Hotel, 170 Ferensway, East Yorkshire, Hull HU1 3UF

9:30	Venue open
10:00	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
10:10	<b>Examining Authority's remarks about the examination process</b>
10:30	<b>Initial assessment and principal issues</b> – see Annex C
10:40	<b>Draft timetable for the examination</b> – see Annex D
11:00	<p><b>Documents and Further information requested:</b></p> <p>Need for and deadlines for submission of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documents as requested in the Planning Inspectorates s51 advice given on 12 May 2015 - Documents as detailed in Annex G</li> <li>• Statements of Common Ground and updated summary schedule as requested in Annex G</li> <li>• Updated plans as requested in Annex G</li> <li>• All written representations</li> <li>• Local Impact Reports</li> <li>• Responses to ExA's written questions</li> <li>• Notifications relating to hearings</li> <li>• Dates and process for submission of updated Draft DCOs</li> <li>• Dates and process for submission of updated Construction Environment Management Plan and Environmental Mitigation Commitments Document</li> </ul>
11:30	<b>Break</b>
11:45	<p><b>Hearings and accompanied site visit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dates of issue specific hearings on draft Development Consent Order</li> <li>• Dates of issue specific hearings</li> <li>• Dates reserved for open floor hearings</li> <li>• Dates reserved for compulsory acquisition hearings</li> <li>• Date reserved for accompanied site visit</li> </ul>
12:20	<b>Any Other Business</b>
12:30	<b>Close of the Preliminary Meeting</b>

**Please note:** The timings above are only indicative; please be available from the start and throughout the meeting. If the discussion takes less time than anticipated, the ExA will conclude the meeting as soon as all relevant contributions have been made. If there are any additional matters to be dealt with or submissions take a considerable amount of time, the meeting may run for longer and the order of items may change.

## Initial assessment of principal issues

This is the initial assessment of the principal issues arising from consideration by the Examining Authority of the application documents and relevant representations received.

It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of all relevant matters. I will have regard to all important and relevant matters when I write my recommendation to the Secretary of State after the examination has concluded.

### 1. Construction and Project Delivery

- Fate of existing pipeline
- Rationale for pipe route and construction sites selected
- Receive shaft or pit
- Adequacy of Geological and Hydrogeological Impact Assessment
  - Differences in geology Goxhill/Paull
  - Lack of data near receive pit
  - Phase 1 final results and Phase 2
  - Pump testing
- Temporary work areas and storage
- Abstraction and discharge equipment, location and interaction
- Flood Risk during and post construction
  - Emergency warning and Flood Incident and Response Plan (FIRP)
  - Design height and climate change
- Effects on existing flood defences and proposed re-alignment
- Program and contingency

### 2. Biodiversity, Ecology and Natural Environment

- Evidence that existing pipeline may be retained (no obligation to remove)
- Adequacy of baseline assessment
- Adequacy of proposed monitoring
- Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)
- Effects on the Paull Holme Strays Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve
- Effects on birds (visual, dust and noise)
- Effects on water voles and badgers
- Effects on Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)
- Timing of the works and seasonal effects
- Schedule of Mitigation
  - Water Vole mitigation plan
  - Foraging displacement areas
- Opportunities for enhancement

### 3. Noise, Disturbance and Vibration

- Noise model inputs & monitoring
- Construction, maintenance and decommissioning noise
  - Effects on birds and mammals
  - Effects on humans
  - Helicopter pad
- Operational noise effects

### 4. Transportation and Traffic

- Initial Transport Management Plan

- Reporting inconsistencies
- Significance of impacts (EIA)
- Preferred route
- Relevant Representation suggested alternatives including adoption
- Railway bridge and crossing
- Effects of importing water and/or removing spoil
- Traffic controls
- Means and effects of transporting construction materials and personnel to site
- Effects on public transport, including effects on individual services and on bus and rail networks and systems

## **5. Debris, Waste and Contamination**

- Tunnel arisings
- Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs)
- Sediment – Water Framework Directive
- Dust from construction and traffic
- Impact on water quality and resource

## **6. Historic Environment**

- Effects on the terrestrial environment
- Effects on the marine environment
- Monitoring

## **7. Design, Landscape and Visual Impact**

- Demonstration of good design in terms of;
  - Siting (Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment)
  - Minimising ecological impacts
  - Reinstatement

## **8. Socio Economic Effects**

- Need for energy infrastructure and security of supply
- Effects on the Paull Holme Strays YWT reserve
- Effects on local businesses
- Effects on local residences
- Effects on recreation
- Employment effects

## **9. Draft DCO**

- The Works
  - definition and scope of temporary works
  - limits of deviation
  - Flood Risk Assessment heights of temporary offices etc.
  - Location and specification of abstraction and dewatering pumps and inlet/outfalls
- Construction and Project Environmental Management Plans (CEMP/PEMP)
- Certified Plans – Illustrative Site Layout, Long Section
- Schedule of Mitigation Requirements
- Initial Site Water & Site Waste Management Plans; Traffic Management Plan
- Protective Provisions

## **10. Compulsory Acquisition**

- Proposals and justifications for the acquisition of land and rights
- Consideration of alternatives
- Statutory Undertakers and Protective Provisions
- Security of funding

### Draft timetable for examination of the application

The Examining Authority's (ExA) examination of the application takes the form of consideration of written representations about the application. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at the hearings. The ExA is under a duty to **complete** the examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

Item	Matters	Due Dates
1.	Preliminary Meeting	<b>9 September 2015</b>
2.	Issue by ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examination timetable</li> <li>• ExA first written questions</li> </ul>	<b>As soon as practicable following the Preliminary meeting</b>
3.	<b>Deadline 1</b> Deadline for the receipt of the following documents requested by ExA – <u>see Annex G</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statements of Common Ground (Drafts) and summary schedule</li> <li>• Updated ES chapters</li> <li>• Updated plans</li> <li>• Updated Schedule of Mitigation Measures</li> <li>• Updated Schedule of Progress of Voluntary negotiations</li> <li>• In-combination assessment evidence for Humber Estuary SAC; survey data summary table; and updated Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening and integrity matrices</li> </ul>	<b>23 September 2015</b>
4.	<b>Deadline 2</b> Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on relevant representations (RRs)</li> <li>• Summaries of all RR's exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Written Representations (WRs) by all interested parties.</li> </ul> <p><i>All parties should submit their full written case and supporting evidence at this stage, as any</i></p>	<b>12 October 2015</b>

	<p><i>representations to be heard at a hearing should be based on RR or WR</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summaries of all WRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Local Impact Reports (LIRs) from any local authorities</li> <li>• (Responses to ExA's first written questions (ExQ1))</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Where ExQ1 responses are relevant to matters contained in the SOCGs please ensure that SOCGs are updated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on Statements of Common Ground (Drafts) from Deadline 1</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at a Compulsory Acquisition hearing</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at the Issue Specific Hearing on the draft Development Consent Order (DCO)</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at any other Issue Specific Hearing</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at an Open Floor Hearing</li> <li>• Notification from statutory parties, or a local authority without direct responsibility in the proposed development area, of a wish to be considered an interested party</li> <li>• Nominations of locations to be inspected during unaccompanied site inspections, the features to be observed there, with reasons for each nomination; and</li> <li>• Nominations of locations to be inspected during accompanied site inspections, the features to be observed there, with reasons for each nomination.</li> </ul> <p><i>The ExA has already undertaken USV from public areas and will publish a site note of these visits.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any other information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	
5.	<p>Issue by ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification of date, time and place for hearings and accompanied site visit(s)</li> </ul> <p><i>Agendas for each hearing will be published on the project page of the National Infrastructure pages of the Planning Portal website seven calendar days before the hearing is due to take place but will not otherwise be published or</i></p>	<p><b>No later than</b></p> <p><b>27 October 2015</b></p>

	<i>circulated.</i>	
6.	<p><b>Deadline 3</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on WRs and responses to comments on RRs</li> <li>• Comments on Local Impact Reports</li> <li>• Comments on responses to ExA's first written questions</li> <li>• Progress report on draft SOCGs and updated summary schedule</li> <li>• Comments on any other documents submitted at Deadline 1</li> <li>• Any other information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<b>2 November 2015</b>
7.	<p>Date reserved for <b>Issue Specific Hearing</b> relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction – how the project will be planned and executed and its effects;</li> <li>• Biodiversity, Ecology and Natural Environment impacts</li> <li>• Noise impacts</li> <li>• Transportation and Traffic impacts</li> <li>• Debris, Waste and Contamination impacts</li> <li>• Historic Environment</li> <li>• Navigation</li> <li>• Landscape and Visual Impact</li> <li>• Socio Economic Effects</li> <li>• Any other matter requested by the ExA</li> </ul> <p><i>Agendas for each hearing will be published on the project page of our website seven calendar days before the hearing is due to take place but will not otherwise be published or circulated. The actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subjected to change at the discretion of the ExA.</i></p>	<b>17 November 2015</b>

8.	<p>Date reserved for <b>Issue Specific Hearing</b> relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft application Development Consent Order (DCO) – a high level review the certified documents and plans</li> <li>• any other matters relevant to achieve efficient progress of the examination</li> </ul>	<b>18 November 2015 - AM</b>
9.	<p>Date reserved for <b>Issue Specific Hearing</b> relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compulsory acquisition issues</li> </ul>	<b>18 November 2015 - PM</b>
10.	<p>Date reserved for <b>Open Floor Hearing</b> (if required, this will only be held if any requests are received by Deadline 2. If there are no requests, the hearing will be cancelled and interested parties will be notified through the banner on the project webpage.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evening session</li> </ul>	<b>18 November 2015</b>
11.	<p>Date reserved for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accompanied site inspection(s)</li> </ul>	<b>19 November 2015</b>
12.	<p><b>Deadline 4</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-hearing documents including written summaries of oral cases, of any evidence or documents presented, or amendments requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Revised draft DCO from the applicant taking into account all issues raised at hearings and in RRs/WRs (including both clean and track-change versions)</li> <li>• Response to comments from documents received at Deadline 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated SoCGs and summary schedule (<i>use RAG to highlight; red for no progress, or significant issues remain in contention; amber in hand and on track for conclusion;; green – agreed</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline</li> </ul>	<b>27 November 2015</b>
13.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second written questions ( if required)</li> </ul> <p><i>A banner on the River Humber Gas Pipeline replacement project pages of the National Infrastructure website will</i></p>	<b>8 December 2015</b>

	<i>be updated on this day to detail the documents published. If second questions are not required the banner will be updated to note this.</i>	
14.	<p><b>Deadline 5</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to second written questions (if applicable)</li> </ul>	<b>22 December 2015</b>
15.	<p>Dates reserved for <b>Issue Specific Hearings</b> on DCO and other outstanding matters</p> <p><i>Agendas for each hearing will be published on the project page of our website seven calendar days before the hearing is due to take place but will not otherwise be published or circulated. The actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subjected to change at the discretion of the ExA.</i></p>	<b>5 and 6 January 2016</b>
16.	<p><b>Deadline 6</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post hearing documents arising from hearings including written summaries of oral cases put, of evidence and of any documents or amendments requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Applicant's revised draft DCO taking account of issues and comments raised, clean and track-change</li> <li>• Updated SOCGs (where progress has been made since Deadline 4) and summary schedule</li> <li>• Comments on responses to the second round of questions (if issued) ExQ2</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline</li> </ul>	<b>13 January 2016</b>
17.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on Implications for European Sites (RIES)</li> <li>• ExA's Draft DCO</li> </ul> <p><i>A banner on the River Humber Gas Pipeline replacement project pages of the National Infrastructure website will be updated on this day to detail the documents published.</i></p>	<b>1 February 2016</b>
18.	<p><b>Deadline 7</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p>	<b>17 February 2016</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on Report on Implications for European Sites (RIES)</li> <li>• Comments on ExA's draft DCO</li> <li>• Comments on SOCG where updated</li> <li>• Executed final version SOCGs (If these contain remaining points of contention then final position statements for each signatory required for ExA judgement)</li> <li>• Comments on any other information submitted at Deadline 6</li> <li>• Revised Book of Reference taking into account all issues raised at hearings and in RRs/WRs (including both clean and track-change versions)</li> <li>• Any other information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	
19.	<p><b>Deadline 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the responses to the RIES</li> <li>• Comments on the responses to the ExA Draft DCO</li> <li>• Comments on the executed final version SOCG from parties who are not signatories, or from the parties if document is not executed</li> <li>• Responses to revised Book of Reference</li> </ul>	<b>24 February 2016</b>
20.	<p>Time period reserved for issue by the ExA of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any further information requests under Rule 17 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>26 February 2016</b>
21.	<p><b>Deadline 9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to any further information requested as required at item 20 (if required)</li> <li>• comments on responses to revised Book of Reference</li> </ul>	<b>4 March 2016</b>
22.	<p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.</p>	<b>9 March 2016</b>

**Publication Dates:** All information received will be published on the project website as soon as practicable after the deadline for submissions.

[planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/river-humber-gas-pipeline-replacement-project/](http://planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/river-humber-gas-pipeline-replacement-project/)

## Availability and inspection of representations and documents

On the National Infrastructure pages of the Planning Portal website:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/river-humber-gas-pipeline-replacement-project/>

For inspection and copying:

Name of deposit location

Hull Central Library Albion Street  
Hull  
HU1 3TF

Opening times:

Monday : 9:30am - 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Wednesday : 1:00 pm - 7:30pm

Thursday: 9:30 - 7.30pm

Friday : 9:30 am -1:00 pm

Copying charges:

A4 Black and White (10p per sheet) or A4 Colour (50p per sheet)

For inspection and copying:

Name of deposit location

Hedon Library  
31 St Augustine's Gate  
Hedon  
HU12 8EX

Opening times:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Friday: 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday: 9:30 am - 12.30 pm

Copying charges: A4 Black and White (10p per sheet) or A4 Colour (50p per sheet)

Name of deposit location

Barton Library  
Providence House  
Holydyke  
Barton upon Humber

North Lincolnshire  
DN18 5PR

Opening times:

Monday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Friday: 9:30 am to 5pm

Saturday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Copying charges: A4 Black and White - A4(10p per sheet) A3(20p per sheet)or A4  
Colour (35p per sheet) A3 (50p per sheet)

**Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 4**

**Application by National Grid Gas plc for an Order Granting Development Consent for the River Humber Pipeline Replacement Project**

**Notice of appointment of Examining Authority**

On 9 June 2015 a single examining inspector was appointed to hold the examination of the above application under Section 78 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

The single examining inspector is:

- Jeremy Aston BSc (Hons) FRICS

*Pauleen Lane*

**Dr Pauleen Lane CBE FICE MBA  
Group Manager, National Infrastructure  
On behalf of the Secretary of State**

## **Procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)**

The Examining Authority (ExA) has made the following procedural decisions under section 89(3) of the Planning Act 2008;

1. The deadline for a statutory party who has not made a relevant representation, or a local authority without direct responsibility in the proposed development area, to notify the ExA of their wish to be considered an interested party is 12 October 2014.

## **2. Statements of Common Ground (SOCG)**

The DCO application contained document 7.9 '*Statement of Common Ground Schedule*' summarising the status of Statement of Common Grounds (SOCGs) at the time of the Development Consent Order submission. The document identifies 8 parties with whom SOCGs are being discussed, one of which (North East Lindsey Drainage Board) is appended in executed form. It is noted that these documents were in various stages of preparation including in two key cases (Natural England and the Environment Agency) a statement that agreement of SOCGs were deferred until after submission of the DCO. Yet the application documents identify significant pre-application discussion between the applicant and these parties with a number of issues stated as '*agreed*' and others remaining the subject of further dialogue.

The submission of SOCGs into an examination provides a highly effective tool to achieve efficient progress benefiting all involved. The aim of the SOCG is to agree factual information and to inform the ExA and all other parties by identifying where there is agreement and where differences lie at an early stage in the examination process. It thereby provides a focus and saves time by identifying material differences which need to be addressed. Further details and guidance are available in sections 58-65 of the Department of Communities and Local Government publication, [Guidance](#) for the examination of applications for development consent, March 2015. Good examples can be found on the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Subject to consideration at the Preliminary Meeting but in the interests of providing maximum notice for their preparation, SOCGs in advanced draft format are requested to be prepared and submitted by the parties identified for examination by the date in the attached draft examination timetable, Deadline 1 , 23 September 2015, and covering the following topics;

A. the applicant and the Environment Agency to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- scope of the physical site investigations, lab tests, pump tests and modelling
- level of detailed modelling required to provide robust evidence that the project could be implemented within the order limits and ES parameters (if an order were granted)
- effects of the project on groundwater
- the quantification of ground water volume to be removed
- the zone of influence of the required de-watering
- the effects of the de-watering on other water users in the area
- the effects on flows within the East Halton Beck
- the impact on drainage ditches and water voles
- the risk of intrusion of saline water from the estuary into otherwise freshwater aquifers
- flood risks, protection, flood water design height and impact of climate change
- the stockpiling and re-use of spoil and whether permitting required
- the impact on flood defences and future re-alignment projects
- licencing requirements
- Wording for any draft CEMP and mitigation and monitoring requirements
- wording of DCO

B. the applicant and North Lincolnshire and East Riding of Yorkshire Councils (joint or separate statements) to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- traffic and transport (will require evidence of agreement from relevant County Council)
- geology and soil
- noise, vibration and dust
- water resource
- heritage
- ecology
- LVIA
- reinstatement and mitigation

C. the applicant and Natural England to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- scope and extent of survey work
- voles and badgers
- effects on birds

- noise, vibration and dust
- monitoring
- mitigation and enhancement

D. the applicant and Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- deemed marine licence for abstraction
- sediment
- retention of redundant feeder pipeline

E. the applicant and RSPB and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (joint or separate statements) to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- scope and extent of survey work
- baseline definitions
- impacts on voles and badgers
- effects on birds
- Impact on Paull Holme Strays Reserve
- Noise, vibration and dust
- monitoring
- cumulative impacts
- enhancement

F. the applicant and English Heritage to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- adequacy of survey and trenching work
- extent of investigation work necessary ahead of construction
- monitoring

G. the applicant and Goxhill Parish Council to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- traffic and transport avoiding south end (access Option B)

H. the applicant and Public Health England to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- risk assessments, mitigation and residual effects
- Statement of Statutory Nuisance

I. the applicant and North East Lindsay and South Holderness Internal Drainage Board (joint or separate statements) to include, but not be

limited to, the following matters:

- effects on drainage

J. the applicant and Statutory undertakers including Anglian Water, BT Open Reach to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- DCO protective provisions

K. the applicant and Network Rail to include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- Ferry Road railway Bridge (Weight Limit)
- Railway crossing

### **3. Habitats Regulations 2010 (as amended)**

The s51 advice issued on the 12 May 2015 requested the provision of evidence to justify ruling out in combination effects of other projects during construction, operation or de-commissioning on the Humber Estuary SAC. The applicant is requested to provide this information.

It would be helpful to submit into the examination a table (see below under 'other documents') to summarise the survey data captured on birds.

The applicant is also requested to update all screening and integrity matrices provided within the HRA Report to include clear cross-references to specific paragraphs/sections of the HRA Report and/or Environmental Statement where necessary in order to support the conclusions drawn.

The updated matrices are requested subject to consideration at the Preliminary Meeting but in the interests of providing maximum notice for their preparation. They should be provided to the ExA in accordance with the examination timetable. The completed matrices should be supplied in Word format on the template matrices are provided in here

### **4. Further information requested**

This information is requested subject to consideration at the Preliminary Meeting but in the interest of providing the maximum notice for its preparation and entering it into the examination as early as practicable to benefit all parties;

## Plans and Drawings

- Plans as requested in s 51 advice given on 12 May 2015 namely:
  - The dimension text on the Indicative Goxhill and Paull Site Layout plans, doc 2.4 are not legible when printed, it would be useful if this could be rectified.
  - In addition to the above, a discrepancy has been noted on the Land Plans:
    - Plot 40 on Land Plan L003 (Sheet 2 of 16) is described in the BoR as situated to the east of Lakes Farm where the plot appears to be south east of Lakes Farm.
    - There are several plots that are difficult to see clearly and where an inset sheet would provide clarity. These are as follows: -
      - Plot 24 on Land Plan L003 (Sheet 2 of 16); and
      - Plot 100 on Land Plan L009(Sheet 8 of 16).
- Works plans overview (W001) 'Works Number' labels in yellow. Please increase font size so legible when printed at A1 and add the relevant road names along the site access routes to assist quick identification of locations likely to be discussed during the examination.
- 2.4 - Indicative Goxhill Site Layout; Please illustrate the location and height of the flood protection to the drive pit.
- 2.4 - Indicative Paull layout - Please illustrate the location and height of the flood protection to the receive shaft clarifying whether this is a shaft or rectangular pit since the application descriptions/illustrations vary.
- Longitudinal section – please add the transition points between Works 1A; 1B and 1C.
- Please locate and outline the Drive Pit and the Receive Shaft shown on the Indicative Long Section (2.5) on works plan W006 and W008.
- Please identify the service and drainage ditch crossing points on the works plans at each end of the tunnel.
- Please add the field numbers used in the bird surveys to both the relevant Works Plans and Illustrative Layouts.
- The draft DCO states '*trenched and trenchless*' when describing Work No 1 A and Work No 1C. Please confirm whether any of the pipeline route apart from the '*receive shaft*' and '*drive pit*' are open trenched and if that is the case provide a plan to identify those specific locations.
- To clarify the statements made in 2.7, 2.9 and 2.10 of the Statement of Reasons (Document 4.1) regarding working widths, please illustrate a typical tunnel section identifying the target route, limits of deviation from that in the horizontal and vertical planes and overall width.
- Land Plans – on the plots where part of the plot title is '*unknown*' please identify the part of the plot where that applies?

## Version Control

- Many of the application documents do not currently appear to have a version control sheet but it is evident from reading the documents that through the stakeholder consultation the various reports have been updated and revised. From the start of the examination please add version control to assist the examination. A good example is the Hinkley examination applicant document Guide to the Application:

[http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020001/Events/Deadline%206%20-%2018%20June%20%202015/1.7G\\_Guide\\_to\\_the\\_Application.pdf](http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020001/Events/Deadline%206%20-%2018%20June%20%202015/1.7G_Guide_to_the_Application.pdf)

## Environmental Mitigation Commitments Document 7.7

- This document is central to identifying the mitigation defined in the application and secured in the DCO. The table appears to be missing some elements e.g. CON D10 and Con D11 and in some cases does not appear in numerical order e.g. CON 13 and CON D14 appear after CON D15 (page 5). It also does not appear to document all the mitigation measures identified in the ES. Please update.

## Schedule of Progress on Voluntary Negotiations Document 7.8

- Updated Schedule of Progress of Voluntary Negotiations for:
  - rights over land
  - identifying statutory undertakers affected
- The schedule should be cross referenced back to the Book of Reference and the relevant land plots. Please update to reflect the latest position and add relevant plot numbers to the table.

## Other documents

By Deadline 1, please supply into the examination relevant updated ES documents including (but not limited to);

- [APP-025] 5.2 Flood Risk Assessment
- [APP-049-59] 6.8 Geology and Soils and Appendices
- [APP-0071-074] 6.13 Water Resources and Appendices

To include information regarding:

- the Phase 1 ground and laboratory tests,
- phase 2 (additional) tests
- pump test at Goxhill and Paull (Scope agreed with EA)
- updated modelling to assess impacts on ground water
- updated modelling to predict the risks of flooding

- trial pits to provide greater certainty on the location of the receive pit