



Infrastructure Planning Directorate
Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Our ref: RA/2015/132060/07-L01
Your ref: EN60004
Our ID: 10031562
Date: 15 January 2016

DEADLINE 6 SUBMISSIONS

Dear Sir/Madam,

A REPLACEMENT HIGH-PRESSURE GAS PIPELINE WITHIN A BORED TUNNEL BENEATH THE HUMBER ESTUARY AND ASSOCIATED DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING A CONNECTING PIPELINE, MINOR MODIFICATIONS TO PAULL ABOVE GROUND INSTALLATION AND ASSOCIATED TEMPORARY LAY DOWN, WORKING AND MITIGATION AREAS.

FROM PAULL, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE TO GOXHILL, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE.

The ExA's second written question number 18 asked that at Deadline 6, we provide comments on the applicant's response to this question. I apologise for the delay in providing this response, which was caused by our ongoing involvement in the flood event which took place in Yorkshire in December. We're now able to provide our comments below:

Question 18a: In Flood Risk Addendum [REP1-013] from Deadline 1 there is a photo on page 3 of the compound area in flood. What year was that taken and what height (Above Ordnance Datum) was the flood event?

Applicant's Response: The photograph taken on page 3 of the Flood Risk Assessment Addendum (Doc Ref 7.2.1) was supplied by the Environment Agency and taken in 2013. Using the photographed flood extent and the site topography data a flood level within the compound area of between 2.0mAOD and 2.3mAOD has been estimated for this event (i.e. typically 0.5m deep). This estimated depth of flooding is similar to the 0.6m depth recorded by National Grid at the Goxhill AGI (refer to the Flood Risk Assessment, Paragraph 3.5.5 Doc Ref 5.2).

EA's Comments: The photograph was taken following the tidal surge on 5 December 2013. Our data shows that levels in the estuary near this location reached 5.71mAODN, and although we have collated information on the extents of flooding, we do not hold site-specific details on the depth of water which occurred on the floodplain. It is our understanding that this area was flooded as a result of overtopping of defences, rather than the breach scenario, which we consider for planning purposes.

Question 18b: On page 29 of the FRA addendum a map was produced to illustrate the effects of a tunnel breach 'Tunnel Collapse Indicative Flood Extents'. The edge of the Lidar ('glass walling') is shown. What are ground levels between here and the village of Goxhill? Does a pathway exist such that the village could be affected?

EA: Please provide your feedback on the applicant's response at Deadline 6.

Applicant's Response: National Grid currently do not have any detailed topographical information between the edge of the LiDAR data 'glass walling' and the village of Goxhill. As outlined in Section 3.3.15 of the Flood Risk Assessment Addendum (Doc Ref 7.2.1), the information provided in Appendix B over-estimates the actual risk and consequences.

Using the extremely conservative flood level estimates the maximum depth of flooding at the edge of the LiDAR data is approximately 0.4m (2.15mAOD) for the 100% AEP and approximately 0.5m (2.26mAOD) for the 10% AEP flood extent. Therefore, if the flood mapping was extended beyond the edge of the LiDAR data the flood extent would extend further to the south.

However, OS mapping indicates that the majority of the Goxhill settlement is above the 5.0mAOD contour and therefore, well above the extremely conservative flood level estimates for the tunnel collapse scenarios investigated. Only the northern part of the village (in the area of North End Farm) is shown by OS mapping to be below 5.0mAOD contour. As the land is sloping up from the edge of the LiDAR data towards the village it is considered highly likely that the whole of the Goxhill settlement is located above an elevation of 2.26mAOD and therefore outside the 10% AEP flood extent for the extremely conservative tunnel collapse scenarios investigated.

EA's Comments: If the ExA wishes to have greater detail on land levels in this locality, the Environment Agency's LIDAR information (topographical survey) is available free of charge and can be provided to the applicant if requested. A simple map could then be produced showing areas of land below the quoted levels (for varying events) in the area of the glass wall and Goxhill village.

We have continued to work with National Grid on the DCO drafting and have entered into a revised Statement of Common Ground, which National Grid will submit to the ExA at Deadline 6.

Should you require any additional information or clarification, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sam Kipling
Sustainable Places Planning Specialist
Direct dial 0203 025 6736
Direct e-mail sam.kipling@environment-agency.gov.uk