

From: James Copeland [<mailto:james.copeland@nfu.org.uk>]
Sent: 13 November 2014 16:35
To: YorksHumberCCSPipeline
Subject: RE: Yorkshire & Humber CCS Cross Country Pipeline (EN070001)

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to your email and Rule 6 letter, the NFU wish to clarify and/or raise the below points if not included in Annex C 'Initial assessment of principle issues'.

We would appreciate clarification before the 19 November, as this will allow us chance to formally notify you of our intention to raise this at the meeting.

7. Land Use and Safety

(i) The NFU would like to stress the importance of this statement and the inclusion of structure as well as land fertility, if the project intends to avoid environmental impacts to soils during construction. Detailed plans and care must be taken when soils are stripped from the working area and then stored affects how that land can be returned to agricultural use and to its pre-existing agricultural condition. It is known through experience from storing soils on other schemes, that it is very difficult to return soil to its pre-existing condition. It is a well-known fact that it takes a very long time for soil to be able to grow crops to the same yield and quality once it has been disturbed. Therefore, the NFU believes that there needs to be an aftercare period and this should be at least 10 years to ensure stabilisation of the soil structure. This should be the length of the long term maintenance and management regime. The NFU would like to see the Project produce a method statement for the handling of soil and that this is detailed in a code of construction practice. It is very important that drainage and water supplies are not affected during construction or once the scheme is operational. There are always problems with agricultural drainage during and after any infrastructure schemes and so it is important that this resolved after the construction of the pipeline has been completed.

(ii) It is essential that fencing off of the worked area happens before any construction work takes place and that the type of fencing is agreed with the landowner/farmer to ensure the safety of all.

8. Noise, Disturbance and Vibration

(i) It is absolutely essential that the agricultural liaison officer and an agricultural helpline is included (24 hours a day) as it is not only the 'residential amenity' that will be affected.

10. River Change

(i) Should the watercourse (river or its tributaries change), any associated impacts to land drainage (Section 7) must be included.

12. Traffic, Travel and Transportation

(i) We believe that farm and field accesses must be maintained or a temporary agricultural access provided during construction so that the day to day farm workings are not disturbed and so the farm business is not affected. If temporary crossings are to be provided to maintain connectivity of footpaths this should be done through negotiation with all affected landowners. When private farm roads and tracks are to be open cut, as much notice as possible must be given to the relevant farmer who will be most affected, even if temporary steel sheeting is to be provided.

Kind regards

James

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