



Meeting note

File reference	EN070001
Status	Final
Author	Tom Carpen
Date	28 June 2013
Meeting with	National Grid Carbon / Aecom
Venue	Telephone conference
Attendees	Applicant: Nigel Pilkington (Aecom) Liz Wells (National Grid Secondment (WYG)) Richard Gwilliam (National Grid Carbon) Russell Cooper (National Grid Carbon) Planning Inspectorate (PINS): Hannah Pratt (EIA officer) David Price (EIA Manager) Tom Carpen (Principal case manager)
Meeting objectives	Update on the project
Circulation	Attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

NG provided updates on project & programme

NG advised that decisions are still outstanding about which emitters will be initially connected and the extent to which the project will be future proofed for later installations.

NG advised that if a separate pipeline would be required to connect to Don Valley, this is likely to be consented under a different regime; NG would consider the cumulative impacts of the projects in the ES.

Project timetable

The current project timetable is as follows:

Formal consultation – September/October 2013
Anticipated DCO submission Feb/March 2014
DECC Decision - Q1 2015

Consultation

PINS and NG discussed the potential risks of having only one round of formal consultation.

In terms of informal consultation, NG advised that it is picking up issues directly with consultees and documenting responses received.

Technical understanding

NG advised that it is future-proofing a multi-junction for possible additional connections, if the Don Valley project is progressed outside of the DCO the site would no longer require a compressor.

NG advised that the DCO Order Limits would include an area set aside for future connections within the multi-junction site.

PINS asked for an understanding of what the compressor plant could include to get an idea of its potential impact. NG explained how it handled and transformed carbon dioxide, to enable transmission.

Offshore Works

NG provided an update on the Offshore Programme (Subject to separate consenting regime – Petroleum Act and Energy Act).

NG advised that offshore pipeline routing survey was planned for this summer (2013) which would inform onshore cumulative effects chapter of the ES.

NG advised that dialogue was ongoing with DECC to start co-ordinating decision process for onshore and offshore schemes.

NG advised that Environmental material to support the offshore submission, is intended to be available for DCO hearing.

PINS advised that the Examining Authorities' interest is more likely to focus on the likelihood of the offshore scheme gaining consent rather than the level of ES information available.

Scoping Opinion

NG discussed two key points raised in the PINS scoping opinion in relation to the proposed scope of the landscape and visual impact assessment of the pipeline infrastructure. NG had previously provided correspondence explaining their approach and how they would respond to the comments in the PINS scoping opinion.

PINS confirmed that the scoping opinion is a published document that cannot be altered or changed but that it is good practice for the EIA to continually evaluate the scope of the assessment to ensure that adequate information is provided.

NG clarified the position in relation to the assessment of landscape and visual impacts associated with the pipeline route, in particular NG stated that impacts to key landscape features e.g. loss of mature trees and hedgerows would be subject to appropriate levels of assessment within the ES. PINS confirmed that this approach was more or less consistent with what was requested in the scoping opinion and

emphasised the importance of the ES explaining and justifying the methodology used and the approach taken to the assessment. PINS also highlighted the importance of the ES including information about how comments made by consultation bodies during the scoping stage have or have not been taken into account within the ES.

Flood Risk Position

NG asked who would be the competent authority for flood risk decision about 'essential infrastructure'.

PINS agreed to get back on this issue.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6000/2115548.pdf

Limits of deviation for drainage

NG advised that it was looking to have limits of deviation for drainage that went beyond the limits of deviation for pipeline works. Currently NG is seeking to set the limits for drainage at field boundaries, based on its engineers' advice, with a view to reducing these by the time of application. PINS advised that NG to take a precautionary approach to impact assessment and NG agreed to send draft plans through to demonstrate its approach.

Offshore

The offshore pipeline would need to be consented under separate legislation by DECC. Pipeline routing studies will be undertaken in summer 2013 and will be used to inform a Statement of Combined Effects within the ES for the onshore (NSIP) elements. PINS welcomed this and explained that as the offshore elements would not form part of the DCO application, they would likely be examined in a proportional way by the examining authority.

The pipeline would extend 175m into the intertidal zone. NG is in discussion with MMO regarding a deemed marine licence within the draft DCO.

Specific decisions / follow up required

PINS to advise on flood risk

PINS to consider a site visit in relation to this and the related White Rose application, along with a local authority meeting

NG to send in draft plans to illustrate approach to limits of deviation for drainage.

NG suggested Bi-monthly meetings (via conference call) to update PINs on project progress. PINs advised that they were happy with this approach.