

IPC Infrastructure Planning Commission

Stakeholder Meeting Note

Nik Perepelov

Meeting with	MGT Power, North Tyneside Council
Meeting date	11th May 2010
Attendees (IPC)	David Cliff (Case Leader) Gideon Amos (IPC Commissioner) Nik Perepelov (Assistant Case Officer)
Attendees (non IPC)	Thiago Azevedo (MGT Power) James Court (Keough Taylor) Peter Brown (North Tyneside Council) Colin Macdonald (North Tyneside Council) Paul Attrill (North Tyneside Council) Sarah Davitt (North Tyneside Council) Frances McLen (North Tyneside Council) Alasdair Kerr (Port of Tyne)
Location	North Tyneside Council offices

Meeting purpose	To discuss the proposed biomass plant in North Tyneside, and IPC processes.
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Summary of outcomes	<p>The meeting began with a presentation setting out the process for applying for development consent and the opportunities for stakeholder engagement under the Planning Act 2008. A copy of the presentation is available on request.</p> <p>MGT intend to commence statutory processes- s46 notification, s42 and s47 consultation- in June/July 2010. Informal discussions with North Tyneside Council on the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to commence in the coming weeks.</p> <p>North Tyneside's Local Development Scheme has recently been updated. The Core Strategy to be sent to committee will be a preferred options strategy. It is likely to be adopted in 2011. Three Area Action Plans are under development, though none of these cover the area of the proposed site. The North Bank Strategy- developed jointly with Newcastle City Council - already promotes the development of disused port facilities for renewable</p>
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	<p>energy.</p> <p>A possible outreach event in relation to the proposed biomass plant would be an IPC event, though in collaboration with both the promoter and local authority(ies). The IPC will liaise with Colin Macdonald to discuss further. Ideally, any such event should precede the first stage of s47 consultation with the community.</p> <p>MGT advised that following an initial round of publicity in October 2009, relatively little interest in the scheme has been generated, though over 100 job applications have been received, as have many enquiries from local businesses.</p> <p>IPC encourages applicants to send it draft documents prior to the submission particularly the draft Development Consent Order which is an important part of the application requiring legal input.</p>
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<p>Record of any advice given</p>	<p>The Planning Act requires that promoters consult with the 'host' local authority in preparing their Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). However, communities in South Tyneside- a neighbouring authority- may also be affected by the proposal. As such, the promoter may consider producing a non-statutory SoCC to help in reaching the members of that community. It is possible that a single SoCC could be produced covering the entire area potentially affected by the development. Though the IPC were unable to comment on the merits of this approach, MGT were reminded of their duty to consult the local community under s47. It is for the promoter to decide whether the publication of a non-statutory SoCC would be conducive to meeting this obligation.</p> <p>Any complaints from members of the public or stakeholder groups about the adequacy of the s47 consultation should go to the promoter and local authority in the first instance. The IPC cannot act or comment on any such complaints prior to the submission of the application, though will make them available to the examining commissioner when appointed. The promoter is not under a statutory obligation to make all consultation responses available to the local authority although it may be useful for it to do so.</p> <p>As the proposal is likely to include a new jetty and associated offloading facility consideration needs to be given to the consenting requirements of this including its implications for the draft Development Consent Order.</p> <p>Until any NPS is designated an application for development consent (in the relevant industry type-</p>
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	currently energy and transport) will be examined the IPC which will make a recommendation to be decided by the relevant Secretary of State.. An application can be 'called in' for examination and decision making by the Secretary of State in certain circumstances set out in the Act (s109-s113).
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Specific decisions/follow up required?	IPC, MGT and North Tyneside Council to liaise on the organisation of a future IPC stakeholder event.
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IPC Circulation List	David Cliff
	Gideon Amos
	Nikita Perepelov
	Stewart Willes
	Sheila Twidle
	Laura Allen
	Jeff Penfold
	Lynne Franklin