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Havant Borough Council
Planning Department
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8 February 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning application for a Gas fuelled Capacity Mechanism embedded generation plant to support the National Grid at Hermitage Park, Harts Farm Way, Havant, PO9 1HS (Resubmission of APP/21/00809)

I have been instructed by Forsa Energy Gas Holdings Ltd (the Applicant) to act as planning agent for the above planning submission.

This application is a resubmission of previously approved applications (APP/21/00809) on the site which were granted consent in January 2023. Since receiving planning consent the site has transferred ownership and whilst still be used in the Capacity Market the selection of technology has changed. It is noted that this consent was screened and deemed not to be an EIA development. The purpose of this application would be to amend the layout to change technology from 9no. standby generators and ancillary equipment to 5no. standby generators and ancillary equipment. The total generation capacity would remain at 20MW. As shown in the attached site location plan, the redline boundary remains the same as previously permitted. Furthermore, the description of the proposed development, site layout and equipment specifications would remain as previously approved.

The application would be submitted Forsa Energy Gas Holdings Ltd to develop a gas fuelled Capacity Mechanism embedded generation plant. The plant would generate electricity using gas-fuelled generators and would supply reserve power as part of the Government's Capacity Market programme to ensure continuity of electricity supply to meet peak demand.

The proposed development would comprise 5no. standby generators and ancillary equipment. The heights of components vary from 12.8m for the exhaust stacks of the generators and other associated buildings being a maximum 5.0m. Two on-site parking spaces area would be provided within the development site for use by contractors and maintenance staff to ensure no requirement for on-street parking.

Gas flexible generation generally provides stand-by generation during peak demand periods, known as 'stress events' where there is a risk of electricity blackouts. The Applicant accepts, and welcomes, that over time there should be a move away from fossil fuel generation but at

present there is a need for stand-by gas flexible generation as a viable option to facilitate the move away from a centralised, fossil fuel electricity network.

The recently published Energy White Paper (December 2020) continues to support the role of the Capacity Market, including developments such as the one proposed. It states:

*“While we are not planning for any specific technology solution, we can discern some key characteristics of the future generation mix. A low-cost, net zero consistent system is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. But ensuring the system is also reliable, means intermittent renewables need to be complemented by technologies which provide power, or reduce demand, when the wind is not blowing, or the sun does not shine. Today this includes nuclear, gas with carbon capture and storage and flexibility provided by batteries, demand side response, interconnectors and **short-term dispatchable generation providing peaking capacity**, which can be flexed as require.”* (page 43, emphasis added).

Whilst the description and the redline boundary remain as approved the proposed development uses different technology. The Applicant has therefore revised the submitted and approved supporting documents to ensure they are up to date and appropriate for the technology of choice. These are:

Appendix A Drawings

Appendix B Noise Impact Assessment

Appendix C Air Quality Assessment

Appendix D Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Shadow HRA

Appendix E Visual Assessment

Appendix F Flood Risk Assessment

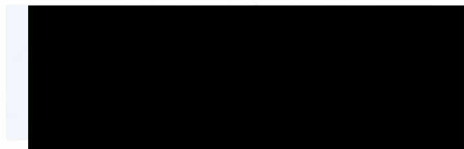
Appendix G outline Construction Environment Management Plan

Appendix H Construction Traffic Management Plan

These supporting reports demonstrate that the potential impacts of the revised development would be an improvement on the previous approved development. It is therefore concluded that the proposed development would still have an acceptable impact and would provide the benefit of important energy infrastructure within the Borough and continues to be in conformity with the Local Plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, as the Applicant’s planning agent, if you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the planning agent.

Clive Fagg MRTPI