



Net Zero  
Teesside

# Statement of community consultation

June 2020



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## Glossary

Abbreviation	Description
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage
DCO	Development Consent Order: provides a consent for building and operating an NSIP
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
ICZ	Inner Consultation Zone
Km	Kilometres
Mt	Million tonnes
MW	Megawatt: the measure of electrical power produced
NZNS Storage	Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited: one of the Applicants
NZT	The Net Zero Teesside Project
NZT Power	Net Zero Teesside Power Limited: one of the Applicants
OCZ	Outer Consultation Zone
PA 2008	Planning Act 2008
PEI Report	Preliminary Environmental Information Report - summarising the likely environmental impacts of the proposed development
NTS	A Non-Technical Summary of the information in the PEI Report
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation: sets out how a developer will consult the local community about a nationally significant infrastructure project and proposed application for development consent
SoS	Secretary of State

# 1.0 Introduction

## Introduction

1.1 Net Zero Teesside Power Limited and Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited (the 'Applicants') are proposing to apply for development consent pursuant to Section 37 'Applications for orders granting development consent' of the Planning Act 2008 (the 'PA 2008') from the Secretary of State ('SoS') for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Net Zero Teesside Project ('NZN') on land at Redcar and Stockton-on-Tees on Teesside.

## Net Zero Teesside

1.2 NZN would be the UK's first commercial scale, full chain Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage ('CCUS') project and comprises both onshore and offshore elements, including:

- a high efficiency gas-fired power station with an abated capacity of up to 2.1 gigawatts output (gross), including carbon capture plant, that can flexibly deliver low carbon power locally and nationally to back-up renewable energy sources when the wind isn't blowing or the sun isn't shining;
- cooling water, gas and electricity grid connections for the gas-fired power station;
- a carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) gathering network connecting (including connections under the tidal River Tees) to other facilities on Teesside, including local industries – industries capturing CO<sub>2</sub> from their own processes will have access to the network so that their CO<sub>2</sub> can be transported and stored;

- a CO<sub>2</sub> gathering and compression station - this will receive the captured CO<sub>2</sub> from the power station and other facilities and compress the CO<sub>2</sub> to high pressure;
- a CO<sub>2</sub> transport/export pipeline for the onward transport of the captured and compressed CO<sub>2</sub> to an offshore storage site; and
- a geologically secure offshore storage site under the North Sea where the CO<sub>2</sub> will be permanently stored - this will either be a depleted oil or gas field or a saline aquifer.

1.3 The gas-fired power station and CO<sub>2</sub> gathering and compression station will be located on part of the former SSI steel works site in Redcar. The CO<sub>2</sub> transport/export pipeline will also start in this location before heading offshore. The power station connections and the CO<sub>2</sub> gathering network will involve land within both Redcar and Stockton-on-Tees, including crossings beneath the tidal River Tees.

1.4 The application for development consent will encompass all the onshore elements of NZN (above mean low water springs) and the crossings beneath the River Tees. These are the elements that are the subject of the consultation described within this document.

1.5 The offshore elements of NZN (the continuation of the CO<sub>2</sub> transport/export pipeline and the storage site) will be subject to separate consent applications.

## Environmental information

1.6 NZN is an environmental impact assessment ('EIA') development for the purposes of 'The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017'. This means that an EIA of NZN will be undertaken by the Applicants. This will assess the likely significant environmental effects arising from NZN. It will also identify any mitigation that is necessary to control or reduce those environmental effects. The findings of the EIA will be documented within an Environmental Statement ('ES') that will form part of the application for development consent.

1.7 Environmental information will be made available during the consultation on NZN. This will take the form of a Preliminary Environmental Information ('PEI') Report. The PEI Report will effectively take the form of a draft ES and provide information on the likely significant environmental effects of NZN, so far as known to the Applicants at this stage. There will be an opportunity to comment upon the PEI Report during the consultation (see below for more details). The comments received will be taken into account in the preparation of the ES.

## Purpose of this document

1.8 This Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC') has been prepared by the Applicants in accordance with Section 47 'Duty to consult local community' of the PA 2008. Section 47 places a statutory duty on applicants to "prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land." The SoCC therefore sets out how the Applicants will consult (in accordance with Section 47) the local community about their proposals for NZN prior to the anticipated submission of the application for development consent toward the end of 2020.

1.9 The SoCC has been prepared with reference to guidance on pre-application consultation published by the Government (Department for Communities and Local Government - 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process', March 2015), the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS') and the relevant local authorities (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council) for the purposes of Section 47 of the PA 2008. The Applicants have had regard to the responses from the relevant local authorities in preparing and finalising the SoCC.

1.10 The SoCC, and the consultation methods that will be used by the Applicants, also take account of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the UK and related legislation and the UK Government's advice and guidance.

1.11 More detail on how the Applicants will consult the local community is set out in the Consultation Strategy, which can be viewed on the Project Website: [www.netzeroteesside.co.uk](http://www.netzeroteesside.co.uk)

## 2.0 Approach to pre-application consultation

### Consultation objectives

- 2.1 The Applicants' objectives for the pre-application consultation on NZT are to:
- raise awareness of what is being proposed and to give the local community, local elected representatives, local authorities (including Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council) and other stakeholders the opportunity to make informed comments on the proposals;
  - provide those consulted with an opportunity to influence any aspects of NZT that are under development and to understand which elements of the Project are fixed and why;
  - provide clear and concise information at appropriate times;
  - invite feedback; and
  - show how feedback has been taken into account in finalising the application for development consent prior to its submission.

### Consultation stages

- 2.2 In order to achieve the above objectives, the Applicants have adopted a two-stage consultation process comprising:
- **Stage 1 (non-statutory consultation):** this involved consultation with the local community and local elected representatives within the immediate vicinity of the NZT Site on the Applicant's initial proposals in autumn 2019. This was non-statutory consultation (i.e. not required by the PA 2008).

Stage 1 provided information on the broad locations being proposed for the gas-fired generating station and the CO<sub>2</sub> gathering/compression station and the various route

corridors for the water, gas and electricity connections and the CO<sub>2</sub> gathering network. The findings of the early environmental work on the Project were also made available.

- **Stage 2 (statutory consultation):** this will involve consultation with the local community within the wider vicinity of the NZT Site, local elected representatives and other stakeholders on the Applicants' more developed proposals. This will be statutory consultation in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008.

Stage 2 will provide information on the Applicants' more developed proposals for NZT. The PEI Report and a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of this will be made available during Stage 2. A variety of consultation methods will be employed (set out below), taking account of the restrictions that are in place as a result of COVID-19.

### When will consultation take place?

- 2.3 The Stage 2 Consultation will commence in late June 2020 and run until mid-September 2020. The Stage 2 Consultation will therefore run for approximately two and a half months. This is in excess of the statutory minimum periods required by the PA 2008 and related regulations. The Applicants have decided to allow additional time for people to find out about the NZT proposals and submit comments and feedback in view of the COVID-19 restrictions.

### What will we consult on?

- 2.4 The Stage 1 Consultation was used to introduce NZT and the options being considered. The Stage 2 Consultation will be used to provide information on the Applicants' more developed proposals, including:
- the decisions made about the locations, route corridors, design and layout of the onshore elements of NZT and how the route corridors are being narrowed as we move toward submission of the application for development consent;
  - the potential effects of the construction and operation of NZT, including the duration of the construction programme;
  - the findings of the EIA undertaken on NZT at the time of the consultation, presented in the form of a PEI Report with a NTS;
  - the proposals for avoiding, minimising and/or mitigating any likely environmental effects of the Project, to the extent defined and known at that stage;
  - an update on the timeline for NZT and the key milestones, including the anticipated submission date for the development consent application; and
  - how comments and feedback can be provided and the deadline for the receipt of these.

### Where and who will we consult?

- 2.5 A 'Consultation Area' has been defined for the purposes of the Applicants' pre-application consultation. The Consultation Area is divided into two zones; an Inner Consultation Zone ('ICZ') and an Outer Consultation Zone ('OCZ').
- 2.6 The ICZ is defined by the yellow line in **Figure 2.1** on page 7. The NZT Site is shown edged in red. The ICZ represents the area within which we consider there is the greatest potential for local communities to be most affected by NZT. The ICZ extends approximately 1-2 kilometres ('km') from the boundary of the NZT Site and includes the nearby settlements of Dormanstown, Normanby, Lazenby, Lackenby, Coatham, the western part of Redcar and Kirkleatham. It extends beyond the edges of the gas, electricity and water connections and CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline route corridors, following the main settlement and river/estuary boundaries, but has been extended in places to include settlements such as Eston and Teesville.
- 2.7 The OCZ, shown by the yellow circular line in **Figure 2.2** on page 7, has been defined with reference to the early EIA work and extends to approximately 20 km from the boundaries of the NZT Site. It is considered to represent the maximum extent within which environmental effects could occur. For example, the air quality assessment will be based upon a Zone of Theoretical Influence of up to 15 km and the landscape and visual impact assessment upon a Zone of Theoretical Visibility of 10 km.

## 2.0 Approach to pre-application consultation (continued)

Figure 2.1 – NZT Site and Inner Consultation Zone



Figure 2.2 – NZT Site and Outer Consultation Zone



## 3.0 Consultation methods

3.1 The Applicants will use a range of consultation methods, taking account of the restrictions in place due to COVID-19, in order to ensure that the Stage 2 Consultation is effective and safe, but still provides the local community with sufficient opportunity to learn about the latest, more developed NZT proposals and to provide comments and feedback. The range of methods employed will ensure that all sections of the community are provided with the opportunity to provide comments and feedback. The consultation methods are outlined below.

### Press/media releases

3.2 Press/media releases will be used to publicise the latest proposals for NZT. A press release will be issued to the local and regional press at the start of the Stage 2 Consultation. Press releases will also provide information on how the local community can find out about the proposals and the ways in which people can provide comments and feedback.

### Radio/social media

3.3 Radio adverts will be placed with radio stations broadcasting within the Consultation Area to publicise the latest proposals, how the local community can find out about the proposals and the ways in which people can provide comments and feedback. The Applicants will also use local social media forums and pages to further publicise the consultation.

### Information Leaflet

3.4 An Information Leaflet will be sent to all residents and businesses within the ICZ prior to the start of the Stage 2 Consultation. This will provide information on the latest proposals, others ways in which information is being provided given that physical consultation events cannot be held due

to COVID-19, how further information and consultation materials can be requested, and how comments and feedback can be made as well as the deadline for the submission of these. The Information Leaflet will incorporate a Feedback Form and include a Freepost address that the Form can be returned to, as well as providing a Freephone number that people can use to submit comments and feedback over the telephone.

3.5 In addition to local residents and businesses, the Information Leaflet will be sent to local political representatives, including local MPs, district councillors and parish and town councils.

### Newspaper notices/posters

3.6 The Stage 2 Consultation will be advertised by placing information notices in local newspapers circulating across both the ICZ and the OCZ (the entire Consultation Area) for two consecutive weeks. The local newspapers that will be used are the Northern Echo, Teesside Gazette and Darlington and Stockton Times. If safe and appropriate to do so, posters will also be placed on open air public notice boards across the Consultation Area. In accordance with Section 48 of the PA 2008, a notice will be published in a national newspaper (e.g. The Times) and other relevant publications for one week and in local newspapers (those mentioned above) for two consecutive weeks. Site notices will also be erected at appropriate intervals around the NZT Site boundaries, including at intervals along the route corridors for the various connections.

## 3.0 Consultation methods (continued)

### Webinars/video conferences

3.7 The Applicants will offer webinars or video conferences to the local community, community groups and representatives, and local political representatives, in order to provide another means by which people can learn about the latest NZT proposals, ask questions and provide comments and feedback.

### Virtual consultation portal

3.8 In view of the COVID-19 restrictions it is unlikely that we will be able to hold physical public consultation events/exhibitions in the usual manner, however, we will run an online virtual consultation portal that simulates the typical approach used in public consultation events/exhibitions. As part of the virtual consultation portal, information boards/banners will be displayed online providing detailed information on NZT. Other consultation materials will also be made available, including the PEI Report and its NTS.

3.9 An online version of the Feedback Form will be made available on the virtual consultation portal so that people can provide comments and feedback after the event.

### Public consultation events/exhibitions

3.10 At present physical consultation events cannot be held due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place. However, in the event that restrictions relating to COVID-19 are lifted or relaxed before or during the Stage 2 Consultation, we will consider whether public consultation events/exhibitions can be accommodated within the consultation period in a way that is fair, achievable and appropriate and safe from a public health perspective.

### Provision of hard copy documents

3.11 In view of the COVID-19 restrictions it may not be possible to place hard copy documents at the usual public inspection venues (e.g. local authority offices and public libraries). However, all of the consultation materials will be available on the Project Website and we will also offer the loan of hard copy sets of documents to people who do not have access to the internet. Documents will be delivered by courier to those requesting them at an agreed time and then picked-up at the end of the consultation period (unless we are requested to collect them before the end of the consultation). Hard copy documents will only be used once. In addition, as an alternative to hard copy documents, the Applicants will offer the loan of electronic tablets/readers to people who do not have access to the internet. All of the consultation materials will be loaded onto the tablets/readers. As with the loan of hard copy documents, the Applicants will arrange for tablets/readers to be delivered by courier at an agreed time and then picked-up at the end of the consultation period, or if requested, sooner than this. Tablets will be thoroughly cleaned following collection prior to being loaned out again.

### Freephone number

3.12 The Applicants will operate a manned Freephone number so people, including those without internet access, can contact us to ask questions about the latest NZT proposals, provide comments and feedback and also request the loan of hard copy documents/an electronic tablet/reader. The Freephone service will operate between the hours of 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

## 4.0 Recording and taking account of consultation

3.13 When phoning, people will be able to arrange an appointment to speak to members of the Project Team where they have specific questions or queries. When a person phones the Freephone number, those manning the service will establish the areas of interest and then arrange for a relevant member of the Project Team to respond to the person, where appropriate by telephone at an agreed time. The relevant member of the Project Team will take a note of the questions/queries raised and also document the answer(s) given. The contact details of the person and the date and time of the call will also be recorded.

### Project Website

3.14 A Project Website has been established and will be used to host all of the consultation materials and to provide information on how people can provide comments and feedback and request hard copy documents/a tablet. People will also be able to complete the Feedback Form on the Website. The Website address is: [www.netzeroteesside.co.uk](http://www.netzeroteesside.co.uk)

### Feedback Form

3.15 A Feedback Form will be made available during the consultation for people to use to submit comments and feedback. The Feedback Form will be incorporated within the Information Leaflet and will be available to complete during the virtual consultation events and also on the Project Website. In addition, people will be able to request hard copies of the Feedback Form by email, post or telephone.

### Recording and analysis

4.1 All comments and feedback received to the Stage 2 Consultation (including completed Feedback Forms) will be recorded and entered into a consultation tracker. The comments and feedback received will then be carefully reviewed, analysed and grouped under specific topic or theme headings. Under each topic/theme heading the issues/matters requiring consideration will then be identified.

4.2 The Applicants will consider the issues/matters raised during the pre-application consultation on NZT and prepare responses to these. In having regard to the issues/matters raised the Applicants will also identify where these have resulted in any changes to the proposals.

### Reporting

4.3 The pre-application consultation undertaken on NZT, including the comments/feedback received to the consultation and how the Applicants have had regard to them, will be documented within a Consultation Report, which will form part of the application for development consent.

4.4 Comments/feedback received to the pre-application consultation may be made public, however, no personal information will be published unless necessary. The Applicants will take reasonable care to comply with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation and the PINS Privacy Policy. A copy of the NZT Privacy Notice is appended to the Consultation Strategy, which can be viewed on the Project Website: [www.netzeroteesside.co.uk](http://www.netzeroteesside.co.uk)

# Contact

You can find out more about NZT by viewing the Project Website: [www.netzeroteesside.co.uk](http://www.netzeroteesside.co.uk) or contacting the Project Team as follows:

By email:  
[consultation@netzeroteesside.co.uk](mailto:consultation@netzeroteesside.co.uk)

By post:  
FREEPOST NET ZERO TEESSIDE  
PROJECT CONSULTATION

By telephone:  
Freephone 0800 211 8185 - lines will be open 10am to pm Monday to Friday from 30th June 2020