



Meeting note

File reference	TR030002
Status	Final
Author	Hannah Nelson
Date	20 November 2014
Meeting with	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
Venue	Teleconference
Attendees	<p>The Planning Inspectorate Mark Wilson– Infrastructure Planning Lead Robert Ranger – Case Manager Sheila Twidle – Head of Environmental Services Laura Allen – Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor Hannah Nelson – EIA and Land Rights Advisor</p> <p>The MMO Adam Chumbley – Case Officer Dee Allen - Case Manager Jayne Griffiths – Senior Case Manager</p>
Meeting objectives	Update on MMO's pre-application engagement with the applicant regarding the proposed York Potash Harbour Facilities application
Circulation	All attendees

Following introductions, the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised on its openness policy that any advice given would be recorded and placed on the National Infrastructure Planning Portal website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended (PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.

The Inspectorate explained that the purpose of the meeting was to gain an understanding from the MMO on their involvement with the project to date.

Brief overview of involvement to date

The MMO confirmed that they have been involved in some pre-application discussions with the applicant regarding the Harbour Facilities Development and have provided a formal response to the s42 consultation. The MMO confirmed that the last meeting was held two weeks prior to this teleconference. The next meeting with the applicant will be held on 27 November 2014. This meeting will also be attended by the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and the Inspectorate.

Involvement in the wider York Potash Scheme

The MMO confirmed that they have issued a marine licence to the applicant in relation to the offshore extraction of potash. The Inspectorate explained that their understanding is that the TCPA applications for the mine and mineral transport facility (submitted to North York Moors NPA and Redcar and Cleveland BC) and the materials handling facility (submitted to Redcar and Cleveland BC) were submitted on 30 September 2014 and the decisions on these applications are due by the end of January 2015. The Inspectorate explained that they are not involved in these applications but have been kept informed by the applicant and NE about progress on these applications.

Update on discussions with the applicant in relation to the proposed Harbour Facilities development

The MMO have completed sediment sample analysis which showed areas of contamination which will be unsuitable for disposal at sea. In the light of this the MMO are waiting for the developer to update their proposals for dredging and disposal. The MMO have advised the applicant that if disposal to sea is required then further sampling work is likely to be required to delineate the area which may be suitable; it is not clear when this information will be provided. Dredging and disposal at sea are licensable activities and can be incorporated into the DML. The MMO confirmed that until all relevant data and information is made available to them, they will be unable to fully comment on the application.

The Inspectorate explained that the applicant has informed them that the Harbour Facility DCO application is due to be submitted on 15 December 2014. PINS advised that it had recently reviewed the draft HRA provided by the applicant for the proposed Harbour Facility, which had been used to inform the TCPA applications, and provided comments to the applicant which would be available on the website shortly as s.51 advice. The Inspectorate explained that it had raised concerns with the applicant about the description of the project in the draft HRA, the level of detail provided about the potential impacts arising from the Harbour Facility and the mitigation proposed, including how it would be delivered through the draft DCO.

Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)

The MMO have had discussions with the applicant with regard to agreeing a SoCG in advance of the submission of the application. Taking into account the outstanding queries under discussion and the short timescale prior to the anticipated date of submission (15 December 2014) in order to review any further information provided by the applicant, the MMO thought it would be unlikely that a SoCG would be agreed prior to submission.