

29th March 2012

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Dear Stephen,

**APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER AT WESTERN DOCKS, PORT OF SOUTHAMPTON,
HAMPSHIRE – SECTION 47 CONSULTATION**

We are in receipt of the comments of No Southampton Biomass (NSB), received on 27th March 2012, in respect of the draft Further Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which we have considered in conjunction with the Council's letter of 27th June 2011, setting out comments on the (previous) Revised Statement of Community Consultation.

We note the Council's letter endorsed the approach set out in the Revised (SoCC) and draft Revised Community Consultation Strategy (CCS) subject to a number of observations:

1. We have accepted all the administrative and practical points raised to do with notification of all City Councillors, at least two weeks notice of public events; and exhibition venues to be fully accessible. The other factual points are noted and have been addressed in the draft Further SoCC and draft Further CCS now submitted.
2. The "Inner Zone" has been expanded in response to the suggestions made last June and we would observe that the Inner Zone area identified by Helius in the draft Further SoCC and draft Further CSS, and intended for leaflet circulation, now broadly coincides with the area shaded green as being an adequate area identified by NSB in their latest communication.
3. We confirm that it is intended that the statutory newspaper advertisements will be placed to appear in two successive Thursday editions of the Daily Echo. The draft Further CCS indicates that further advertisements will be placed in the Southampton News Extra and Advertiser. Helius confirms these adverts will be staggered to appear on different days to the statutory advertisements.
4. Helius will endeavour to stagger the proposed exhibitions in each local authority area so that two exhibitions in each area are 3 weeks apart within the four week exhibition period, subject to availability of suitable accommodation.
5. Helius will have regard to comments made by NSB concerning the content of consultation material but the responsibility for drafting material must rest with Helius.

In response to the further matters raised by NSB in their recent communication, not covered by the above, we would comment:

6. The statutory defined planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, which includes several participatory stages, extends over a period of at least 2 ½ years. Accordingly it is

not possible to programme the various stages involved such that any changes in local authority representation can be avoided.

7. While the IPC is being abolished and effectively being replaced by the National Infrastructure Directorate in the Planning Inspectorate, Helius understands that a 'seamless' transfer of functions is envisaged. Accordingly, at a practical level there should be no impact on the process for considering the project.
8. Helius notes NSB's suggestions regarding potential venues for the exhibitions which will be investigated.
9. Helius were pleased to provide presentations to local school children at the suggestion of Members. While the staff attending introduced themselves as representing Helius, the classroom work focussed on everyday use of electricity, how it was produced and included a working model of a thermal power station.
10. Helius will have regard to the comments of NSB on the scope and content of exhibition material. The matter of overshadowing was covered in the previous consultation and the relevant studies will be updated having regard to the revised site and amended design of the scheme.

As set out in our letter to you dated 13th March 2012, Helius Energy considers that the revised Primary Development Area, which is approximately 125 metres further from the nearest residential development than the original scheme, does not materially affect the definition of those 'living in the vicinity of the land' previously adopted, the proposed extension to the Inner Zone in which the further exhibition leaflet will be circulated or cause the scope of the proposed consultation exercise to be altered.

Yours sincerely,



Rozie Haines
Environmental Planner
For and on behalf of Helius Energy plc