



## COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL DELEGATED PLANNING DECISION

1.	<b>Reference No:</b>	4/21/2415/0H1
2.	<b>Proposed Development:</b>	APPLICATION FOR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES CONSENT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF 10 DIESEL STORAGE TANKS IN TWO SITE LOCATIONS
3.	<b>Location:</b>	SELLAFIELD SITE, SEASCALE
4.	<b>Parish:</b>	Ponsonby, Seascale, Beckermest with Thornhill
5.	<b>Constraints:</b>	<p>ASC;Adverts - ASC;Adverts,</p> <p>Flood Area - Flood Zone 2, Flood Area - Flood Zone 3,</p> <p>Safeguard Zone - Safeguard Zone,</p> <p>Coal - Off Coalfield - Data Subject To Change,</p> <p>Gas Pipeline - Northern Gas Pipeline - 135m buffer,</p> <p>DEPZ Zone - DEPZ Zone,</p> <p>Preferred Route Corridor - Within Preferred Route Corridor</p>
6.	<b>Publicity Representations &amp;Policy</b>	See Report
7.	<p><b>Report:</b></p> <p><b>Site and Location</b></p> <p>Sellafield is an existing licensed nuclear site situated on the west coast of Cumbria. It is highly industrialised covering an area of approximately 6km square and accommodating over 1300 buildings of varying sizes. Vehicular access is via the A595T at Blackbeck, Calderbridge and Seascale.</p> <p>Whilst the site itself does not benefit from any sensitive designations it is situated circa 3km away from the boundary of the Lake District National Park to the east which is a UNESCO World Heritage site.</p> <p><b>The Proposal</b></p> <p>Sellafield Ltd operates a number of processes on the Sellafield nuclear licensed site, some of which involve the storage and use of hazardous substances. This application seeks a new Hazardous Substances Consent sought under the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015 (as amended by the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) 2017) for the storage of petroleum</p>	

products (diesel), as new storage facilities are required to serve stand-by generators at the sites of two new electrical substations on the Sellafield site. This will take the form of 10 new diesel storage tanks in total comprising 4 at the new substation located near the WMAC entrance to the north west of the site and 6 new tanks at the new substation near Caldergate. The tanks are part of an upgrade project of the electrical infrastructure of the Sellafield site to replace the existing emergency back-up generation for the site. It has already been confirmed that this work is permitted development.

The entire project consists of three phases with the total installation of 12 tanks in three locations on site. This application is for approval of the first two phases of the project - the installation of 10 tanks at two locations.

These tanks are additional storage facilities and locations which require hazardous substances consent and there is no change to the type of activities undertaken by Sellafield Ltd using this substance.

In line with this the applicant is also updating their associated COMAH Major Accident Hazard Report Annexes under the appropriate regulations in line with the new capacity and location of the new storage facilities.

### **Consultations**

#### Ponsonby PC

No comments received

#### Beckermeth with Thornhill PC

No comments received.

#### Seascale PC

No objection.

#### Gosforth PC

no objections

#### Environment Agency

No objection - the substances involved are all covered by both the COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) and Environmental Permitting regulatory regimes which are regulated by the Environment Agency.

#### ONR

No objection – does not advise against this development.

#### United Utilities

Wishes to advise no comment.

#### CCC Resilience

Wishes to advise no comment.

Natural England

Advises no comment.

Environmental Health

Based on the information provided, Environmental Health have no comments or objections to this application.

**Public Representation**

This application was advertised by way of a site notice and press notice. No responses have been received to date as a result of these advertisements.

**Relevant Planning History**

It should be noted that an application for express consent to relocate diesel into new storage tanks on a different part of the site (Fellside) was approved earlier this year under planning reference 4/21/2261/HSC.

Another HSC application to vary an existing consent remains pending (4/21/2005/OH1 refers).

**Planning Policy**

**Copeland Local Plan 2013 – 2028 (CLP) (Adopted December 2013)**

The relevant Copeland Local Plan policies are identified below.

Core Strategy

Policy ST1 – Strategic Development Principles

Policy ST2 – Spatial Development Strategy

Development Management Policies

Policy DM5 – Nuclear Sector Development at Sellafield and the LLWR at Drigg

**Other Material Planning Considerations**

National Planning Policy Framework (2019)

Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG)

The aforementioned policies and guidance generally support proposals related to the development of energy/ nuclear related infrastructure on the Sellafield site.

	<b>Assessment / Conclusion</b>  <p>It is the role of the Local Planning Authority with such applications to assess the degree of risk the installation of the new tanks for the storage of an increased amount of diesel on the site poses to the surrounding community. The system is designed to ensure that this substance can be stored and used in significant amounts on the Sellafield site without posing a major off site risk to the public/ local community.</p> <p>Taking the above into account and in particular the consultation responses from key consultees, the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), it is considered that the safety risks to the surrounding community arising from the proposed additional storage facilities for diesel in the form of 10 new tanks at two separate locations on the Sellafield licensed nuclear site are minimal. As such the proposal is considered acceptable in compliance with the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015 as amended, and no conditions have been requested. It should also be noted that the proposal raises no material planning issues and generally accords with the policies of the Copeland Local Plan and national guidance contained in the NPPF.</p>	
8.	<b>Recommendation:</b>  <p>Approve Hazardous Substances</p>	
9.	<b>Statement</b>  <p>The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations and any representations that may have been received and subsequently determining to grant Hazardous Substances Consent in accordance with the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015 as amended and the guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.</p>	
<b>Case Officer: H.S. Morrison</b>		<b>Date : 13/12/2021</b>
<b>Authorising Officer: N.J. Hayhurst</b>		<b>Date : 13/12/2021</b>
<b>Dedicated responses to:- N/A</b>		