

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE: PLEASE READ**

**Proposal for a gas-fired power station on Eye Airfield  
and related infrastructure including the Electrical Connection Compound  
NEWS UPDATE  
10<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**Progress Power last week submitted its Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Planning Inspectorate, which now has until 28 April to confirm that the application meets the required standards to proceed to examination. If the Planning Inspectorate accepts the application, we will give notice of the accepted application and invite you to make representations to the Planning Inspectorate.**

***Electrical Connection Compound***

In February 2014, and following dialogue within the local area and further work on our part, we shared information about plans for a new Access Road leading to our preferred location for the Electrical Connection Compound (which would comprise a substation and sealing end compound). This preferred location was identified as being on land north of Yaxley and Mellis, and south of Thrandeston. We also published details on how the main construction traffic for the Electrical Connection Compound would avoid the three villages by using a new road junction off the A140.

The Electrical Connection Compound is a vital component of our power station project that will provide the country with essential back-up electricity generation capacity. It enables the electricity that the station will generate to be delivered into the National Grid for homes and businesses, hospitals and schools.

When we undertook our statutory consultation last year we confirmed that, having carried out extensive technical and environment studies and non-statutory consultation with the local community and key organisations, we were proposing that the power station on the former Eye Airfield would connect into the National Grid via underground cable from the airfield site, under the A140 and into the Electrical Connection Compound close to the existing overhead, high-voltage National Grid electricity transmission lines.

Understandably, we have received a number of comments and questions about our project: both the power station and the Electrical Connection Compound. With specific regard to the Electrical Connection Compound, we answered questions about it (and indeed other aspects of the Project) from more than 70 people who attended sessions that we held on February 25<sup>th</sup> in Yaxley, Mellis and Eye; the sessions followed the publication of the information regarding the Access Road. A number of parish, district and county councillors were present at these sessions.

A range of questions were asked including the justification for the Electrical Connection Compound's location, the access to it and its visual impact. The team also explained the need for the Electrical Connection Compound, the rationale for burying the electrical connection underground and our intention to screen the Electrical Connection Compound. Since then and as part of the work to finalise our application to the Planning Inspectorate, we have had further regard to people's comments and completed our technical and environmental studies.

***GIS substation: a smaller variant***

Progress Power considers that a substation with Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) technology is appropriate and acceptable in the location of the Electrical Connection Compound and that is the case put forward within our application to the Planning Inspectorate. This is the type of substation described in our recent Information Update.

However, as a result of local feedback regarding the size of the AIS substation, and after further dialogue with Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council, we have made sure that in describing the substation in the application, it has been done in such a way that either an AIS or a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation technology variant could be consented by the Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change.

The footprint of a GIS substation would be approximately one third of the AIS technology variant. We would construct either an AIS substation or a GIS substation. All other elements of the electrical connection (such as the separate sealing end compound) would remain unchanged. So, whilst we consider that an AIS substation remains appropriate, we have ensured that the GIS substation variant can be considered during the examination process as well.

***AIS substation variant (indicative image)***



***GIS substation variant (indicative image)***



*The images are shown without landscaping in order to demonstrate the differences between the two variants. Our landscape screening proposals are contained in our application to the Planning Inspectorate.*

***Public engagement in the Planning Inspectorate process***

If the Planning Inspectorate accepts our application for examination, members of the public and other interested parties, including your parish council, will be able to participate in the examination process which may start this summer.

For information about the Planning Inspectorate's DCO examination process:

- <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-3v4.pdf>
- Call 0303 444 5000
- E-mail via [enquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk)
- Write to the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN

**PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU NEED A LARGE PRINT  
OR TRANSLATED VERSION OF THIS NOTICE**

**THE AIS AND GIS INDICATIVE IMAGES ARE FROM FARMLAND NORTH OF YAXLEY  
LARGER VERSIONS OF THEM CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE**

**[www.progresspower.co.uk](http://www.progresspower.co.uk)**

Email: [info@progresspower.co.uk](mailto:info@progresspower.co.uk)

Post: Freepost RTEY-JYYB-ERSR, Progress Power Ltd, 49 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3JD

Tel: 01603 417722