Proposal for new power generation

Public exhibitions
Introducing the Drax Repower Project

Drax Power Ltd (Drax) is proposing to modify up to two of its remaining coal-fired electricity generating units (known as Units 5 and 6) to become **gas-powered electricity generating plants**. This modification will involve Drax re-using certain equipment currently utilised in Units 5 and 6. In addition, Drax is proposing to construct a **new battery storage facility**. This equipment will be within the main boundary of the existing power station site.

The Drax Repower Project would upgrade and increase Drax's generation capability to meet demand into the 2030s and beyond, make Yorkshire home to large scale battery technology and provide lower carbon power generation in line with Government plans to phase out coal-fired power stations.

A **new pipeline** will provide gas to the new generating plants. We are currently considering two options for where this pipeline will be located, and we will decide on the final route taking into account factors including consultation feedback, engineering considerations and environmental impacts. The pipeline will be located outside of the main boundary of the power station site, on land that Drax does not currently own. We will be speaking with the owners of land affected to try to reach agreement to acquire the necessary rights to construct, operate and maintain the pipeline.

A summary of the key aspects of the Project are included at the end of this leaflet.

The Drax Repower Project was officially announced by Drax in September 2017, alongside a dedicated project website [http://repower.drax.com](http://repower.drax.com)

This website provides details of the Drax Repower Project as well as important documents such as the Scoping Report for Environmental Impact Assessment. This sets out the work that we intend to do to assess the Project's potential environmental impacts.

The Scoping Report is also available at local libraries and council offices, on the Planning Inspectorate’s website ([https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk)) and is available upon request by contacting Drax.

Planning and consultation

The Drax Repower Project is classed a ‘nationwide significant infrastructure project’. Drax is therefore required to submit an application for what is known as a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate, a central government office. It will examine the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy as to whether the Project should go ahead.

At this stage, we anticipate that the application for a DCO will also seek consent for the pipeline. However, if this is not included in the application we will be required to seek a separate planning permission from Selby District Council.

An application for consent is likely to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in the first half of 2018, once Drax and its team of technical specialists have undertaken a series of environmental and engineering assessments and consulted local communities and interested parties.

Informing local people about the Project and considering people’s views is an important part of the application process.

Drax will be carrying out a comprehensive two-phase programme of engagement and consultation with county, district and parish councils, the communities in the local area, local landowners and a range of organisations that have an interest in the local environment. A first round of public exhibitions/drop-in sessions will take place in November to introduce the Project.
How can I find out more and have my say?

We are hosting a number of drop-in sessions, where you and fellow members of the local community will have a chance to find out more about our plans and the work that we plan to do. You can also let us know if you feel that there are any issues that you think that we need to consider before moving to the next stage of the planning process and the formal round of statutory consultation.

The dates and locations of the drop-in sessions are as follows:

**Wednesday, 8th November**
4.00pm to 8.00pm  
Selby Town Hall, York Street, Selby YO8 4AJ

**Thursday, 9th November**
11.00am to 4.30pm  
Drax Sports & Social Club, Main Road, Drax YO8 8PJ

**Saturday, 11th November**
10.30am to 1.30pm  
Junction, Paradise Place, Goole DN14 5DL

Members of the Drax Repower team will be present to answer your questions.

If you are unable to attend the drop-in sessions, all information and a feedback form will be available at [http://repower.drax.com](http://repower.drax.com)

We would welcome your initial feedback to the Project by **30th November 2017**.

The formal round of statutory consultation about the Project will be held early next year. At this point, we will present more detailed information about the Project, including our Preliminary Environmental Information Report. This report will set out our preliminary findings regarding environmental effects. Your feedback will be used to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment and Project design.

We will widely publicise the details of the formal consultation and the timings of public exhibitions in advance.
Key facts about the Drax Repower project

- The Project will seek consent for up to 3,600 megawatts (MW) of new gas generation capacity and up to 200MW of battery storage.

- The gas generation plant units will include up to four new combined cycle gas turbines (CCGT).

- The Project includes a new gas pipeline connection to the National Gas Transmission System and an electrical connection into Drax’s existing 400 kilovolt (kV) substation that would allow electricity to be exported into the National Grid.

- The installation of a temporary crane adjacent to the existing jetty on the River Ouse and at a point close to the power station, during the construction of the Project.

- The environmental assessments for the Project will consider issues such as local planning, air and water quality, flood risk, traffic and transport, noise, ecology, heritage and the effects on landscape and visual amenity.

- We are currently considering undertaking some essential site preparation works in advance of any decision by the Secretary of State on the Project. These site preparation works would involve the relocation of facilities within the power station site complex and may therefore be carried out during the course of 2018.

  If these works take place next year, they would be carried out under Drax’s existing “permitted development” rights (which means that an application for planning permission is not required) because the works are not major and would not impact on the environment.

  If this timetable changes, then the relocation of the facilities would be included in the DCO application.

- Subject to development consent being granted and construction, the Drax Repower Project (gas generating plants, battery storage and gas pipeline) could start operations in 2023/24.