**Slough Multifuel Project – Community Update – Increase in Electrical Capacity**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are you seeking consent to do?**

The existing planning permission for the Project, granted by Slough Borough Council in May 2017, allows the Multifuel Plant (‘the Plant’) to generate up to 50 megawatts (‘MW’) of electricity. We are now seeking to increase the efficiency of the Plant so that it can generate up to 60 MW of electricity.

**Why are you looking to increase the electrical capacity?**

Since the planning permission was granted in May 2017, the technology used in these types of multifuel plants has evolved, making them more efficient. This increase in efficiency does not require any increase in the hourly throughput of waste derived fuel within the Multifuel Plant or in the number of approved deliveries to the Plant, but has the benefit of resulting in increased electrical capacity.

**I live near to the Trading Estate, how will this affect me?**

In order to increase the efficiency of the Multifuel Plant some works will be required to the boilers and steam turbine. For the most part, these works will be internal and there is not expected to be any material change to the visual appearance or size of the Plant from that which was approved by the planning permission in May 2017. It is intended that these works will be undertaken, following grant of consent, in parallel with the current construction works so would not result in a longer construction programme. The works are expected to take around 8 weeks.

**How long is the construction programme?**

The main construction works began at the site in May 2021 and are expected to be completed in early 2024.

**What will be the environmental impacts of the increase in generation capacity?**

The proposed works and changes to the Plant will be fully assessed, however, initial modelling work has indicated that there will be no material change in air quality impacts or other environmental effects. The full findings of those assessments will be reported in an Environmental Statement (‘ES’).

**Who will decide whether to grant this ‘extension’ application?**

Because we want to increase the generating capacity of the Multifuel Plant to more than 50 MW, we need to obtain development consent, which is granted in the form of a Development Consent Order (‘DCO’). The DCO application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate who will administer the process on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, who will make the final decision on whether to grant the DCO.

**How long will this process take?**

We anticipate submitting our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate towards the end of 2022. A decision on the application would be made by the Secretary of State in the first half of 2024.

**I want to give feedback on the proposals, how do I do this?**

As part of the DCO process we would welcome your feedback on our proposals to increase the efficiency of the Slough Multifuel Plant. To get involved and to find out more information, please visit our website https://www.ssethermal.com/energy-from-waste/ slough-multifuel

A Comments Form is available on the website.

Please provide comments by **5pm on** **Friday 17 December 2021**.

There are also other ways to contact us and be involved, please:

* Freephone 0800 335 7003 and leave a message – if you would like us to call you back, please include your name and number as part of your message
* Send an email to thermalenquiries@sse.com
* Use our Freepost address – send to ‘Freepost Slough Multifuel’

**Will there be another opportunity for me to share my views on the plans?**

Following this community update we will undertake further environmental assessment work and prepare a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (‘PEIR’). The PEIR and other information will be made available as part of a further stage of engagement and consultation with the local community and other stakeholders, which is expected to take place in Spring 2022. Details of this and how to get involved will be publicised in a variety of ways in advance.

**I have a question about the ongoing construction of the plant, where can I direct this?**

Please contact the Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Project using the contact details below:

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