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██████████ Ryedale District Council

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Date 9 August 2018

Dear ██████████

## **KNAPTON GENERATING STATION AND OVERHEAD LINE, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

### **APPLICATIONS MADE UNDER SECTIONS 36C AND 37 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989**

### **THE ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATIONS (APPLICATIONS FOR VARIATION OF CONSENT) REGULATIONS 2013 (“The 2013 Regulations”)**

### **REQUEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCREENING OPINIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (“EIA”) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2017 (“The 2017 Regulations”)**

As you may be aware, Third Energy UK Gas Limited (“the Applicant”), has made an application (“the Section 36C application”) to the Secretary of State under Section 36C of the Electricity Act 1989 (“the 1989 Act”) for a variation to extend the life of the previously consented Knapton Generating station in North Yorkshire. A separate application (“the section 37 application”) on behalf of Northern Powergrid (Northeast) Ltd to keep installed an associated 132kV overhead line under Section 37 of the 1989 Act has also been made to the Secretary of State.

I understand that separate applications in respect of extending the lifetime of the associated gas well sites and pipeline networks have also been made by the Applicant to North Yorkshire County Council under the Town and Country Planning regime, which have yet to be determined.

The Section 36C and Section 37 application documents and further information provided by the Applicant are included in attached e-mails from the Applicant dated 4, 18 and 29 May 2018 and 9 July 2018. The Section 36C application includes a supporting statement and an environmental report containing environmental information on all the above infrastructure. This report covers environmental effects arising from the infrastructure both separately and cumulatively. You will note what is proposed does not, in the opinion of the Applicant, comprise EIA development.

The Secretary of State has yet to give notice yet under Regulation 4(6) of the 2013 Regulations that the Section 36C application is suitable for publication, and further information provided by the

Applicant to inform his decision is currently under consideration. However, if accepted, the Department has previously notified the Applicant of our intention that both the Section 36C and Section 37 applications should be considered in tandem and EIA screening should also form part of the Secretary of State's consideration of the applications.

Before screening decisions are given, Regulation 13 of the 2017 Regulations requires the Secretary of State (as the "relevant authority" under the 2017 Regulations) to consult every local planning authority for the area of the Development to obtain its views (if any) on whether or not an environmental impact assessment should be undertaken in respect of the Development. In accordance with Regulation 13(4)(a) of the 2017 Regulations, we should be grateful therefore for your Councils' views by 30 August 2018 at the latest.

If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

I am also copying this letter to [REDACTED] at MBH Environmental, acting on behalf of the Applicant, for information.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**Case Manager, Energy Infrastructure Planning Team**