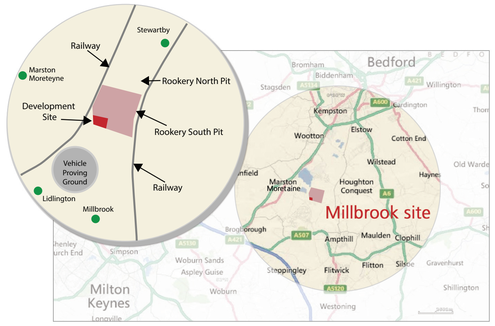
Proposal for a gas-fired power station at Rookery South Pit



Millbrook Power Limited (MPL) proposes to develop a gas-fired power plant with a rated electrical output of up to 299 MW at Rookery South Pit. Using modern and efficient electricity power generation technology, the plant will support the country's transition to a low-carbon economy.

Today's exhibition provides information on

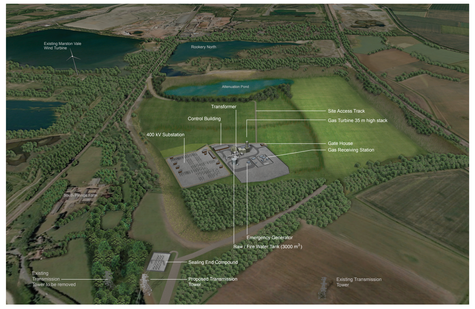
- Millbrook Power
- the need for new electricity generation fuelled by natural gas and our reasons for choosing Rookery South Pit
- the Development Consent Order (DCO) planning & consultation process – at local and national levels
- the proposed Project
- Project timeline
- results of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)
- community benefits
- this phase of consultation and how to provide feedback
- the interaction between MPL and the Rookery South Resource Recovery Facility (the Rookery South RRF Project)

Under the new ownership of UK energy company Drax Group plc, MPL is now resuming the DCO process, building on the previous consultation and environmental work undertaken in 2014/15.

Why Rookery South Pit?

It has three main advantages:

1. Proximity to the national gas and electricity transmission networks
2. National Grid encourages new power generation development in the region
3. Rookery South Pit is classified as brownfield land and is allocated by Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) for development.



Illustrative view

Planning & Public Consultation

The project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, which means that a DCO is required to build, operate and maintain it.

The DCO application will be processed and examined by the Planning Inspectorate and the final decision on the application will be made by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

The associated electrical and gas connections will be considered together with the power generation plant under the DCO application.

Consultation with Central Bedfordshire Council, Bedford Borough Council (BBC), local people, businesses, and Parish Councils in the area is an essential part of the DCO process and will help to influence the final designs of the Project.

MPL is also liaising closely with organisations such as the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England to ensure that the plant will be designed, built, operated and maintained to the highest safety and environmental standards.

Development of the Project

As a result of consultation, feedback, and technical and environmental studies, several significant changes have occurred since the previous consultation events in 2014:

- undergrounding of the electrical connection to the National Grid (thereby avoiding the need for overhead transmission lines and additional transmission towers)
- reduction in the number of turbines used to generate electricity from a maximum of five units to only one unit with one stack
- reduction in the maximum height of the stack (from 60 m to 35 m)
- re-arrangement of generating equipment in order to reduce the impact of noise on nearby homes
- re-location of the gas connection site to reduce impact on agricultural land
- improvement of access arrangements, traffic management measures and routing during construction to minimise impact on the road network

The Project Key Details

- the construction, operation and maintenance of an Open Cycle Gas Turbine (also known as a Simple Cycle Gas Turbine) Power Generation Plant
- the Power Generation Plant will produce electricity from natural gas
- it is designed to provide flexible back-up generation capacity, which can respond quickly and efficiently to short-term variation in electricity demand, intermittent output from renewable power generation and periods of system stress
- the Power Generation Plant could operate for up to a maximum of 2,250 hours in any given year, provided that the five-year rolling average does not exceed 1,500 hours per year
- the Power Generation Plant will have one stack of up to 35m in height from the base of Rookery South Pit
- the site for the generating equipment and substation covers an area of approximately 8 hectares (20 acres) and is located within Rookery South Pit itself
- the construction, operation and maintenance of a new underground electrical connection together with a new substation to connect the Power Generation Plant to the existing overhead power line nearby
- the layout of the electrical connection is yet to be finalised but an area within which the connection will be sited has been identified; MPL will work with National Grid on the indicative design of the connection over the coming months
- the construction of a new underground pipeline to bring natural gas to the Power Generation Plant from the National Gas Transmission System located nearby
- the Power Generation Plant could become operational in 2022, subject to public consultation, planning and market conditions

Although a preliminary preferred layout of the Power Generation Plant has been identified, the final location and layout are yet to be determined.

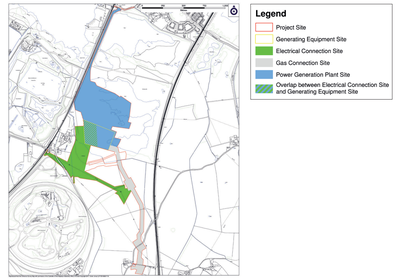
Key Milestones

Preliminary Environmental Assessment

Steps to mitigate the impact of the Project on the local environment during its construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning are a major part of the consultation and planning process.

Due to the nature and size of the Project, MPL is undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The EIA considers the potential positive and negative impacts of the Project and MPL has published its interim findings in the PEIR. The PEIR, along with a non-technical summary, is available for inspection today, at the main office of Central Bedfordshire Council, Bedford Borough Council's Customer Service Centre, Marston Vale Forest Centre, as well as at local libraries. It can also be viewed at www.millbrookpower.co.uk.

The Project's environmental assessments (in 2014 and since) take the Rookery South RRF Project into account and provide a clear assessment of the cumulative environmental impact of both projects.



Community Benefits

This £100m Project would be a substantial investment in the area and would deliver significant economic benefits for a period of at least 25 years, including:

- creation of around 150 jobs during a 2 year construction period
- creation of up to 15 permanent skilled jobs for on-going operation and maintenance of the facility
- potential business opportunities for local suppliers

MPL will consult CBC and BBC on ways to bring wider social and environmental benefits to the surrounding area.

Comment and Feedback

Your feedback is important to the consultation process. We would like your views on:

- the layout of the Generating Equipment within the Generating Equipment Site
- the Project as a whole, including changes since the 2014 consultation
- the interaction between the Project and the Rookery South RRF Project
- the findings of the preliminary assessment on the likely significant environmental effects of the Project during construction and operation, as set out in the PEIR

This consultation phase will end on Sunday 2nd July 2017, and we would welcome your views on or before this date.

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