

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

Severn Power Limited (Severn Power Station) Decision Document

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Full transfer

We have decided to grant the transfer for Severn Power Station from Siemens Energy Limited to Severn Power Limited. The permit number is EPR/HP3737UE.

The permit is transferred in full from Siemens Energy Limited to Severn Power Limited. Severn Power Limited had previously contracted Siemens Energy Limited to operate and maintain the plant, the contract is now no longer in place therefore the permit is transferred in full to Severn Power Limited. Severn Power Limited is owned by the overarching company Calon Energy Limited, which also owns Baglan Operations Limited (Baglan Bay Power Station) and Sutton Bridge Power Generation Limited (Sutton Bridge Power Station). Calon Energy Limited owns all three sites and subsidiary companies. This transfer will bring the management of Severn Power Station in line with how the other two sites are managed, by their respective subsidiary companies of Calon Energy Limited.

At the time of the application the registered office address of Severn Power Limited remained that of the administrators: KPMG LLP. Severn Power Limited are no longer in administration therefore once the address has been updated on Companies House records an administrative variation will be required to update the registered office address on the permit. The Operator is in agreement with this approach.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Control of the facility

We are satisfied that the applicant (now the operator) is the person who will have control over the operation of part of the facility after the grant of the permit. The decision was taken in accordance with EPR RGN 1 Understanding the meaning of operator.

Environment Management System

The environment management system (EMS) will change as a result of the transfer. The new EMS will include all the site specific elements of the existing EMS but will be built into a full EMS structure based on an EMS which is applied at a similar site in England (Sutton Bridge Power Station) operated by the same overarching Operator (Calon Energy Limited) and will be ISO14001 externally accredited. The new Environment Management System will be designed in accordance with ISO14001 requirements, industrial emissions directive requirements and the Large Combustion Plant (LCP) Best Available Techniques (BAT) requirements. The existing site specific procedures as per the LCP BAT requirements will remain and be implemented through the new EMS.

There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not have the management systems to enable it to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 5 on Operator Competence.

Relevant convictions

The National Enforcement Database (COLINS) has been checked to ensure that all relevant convictions have been declared. No relevant convictions were found. The operator satisfies the criteria in RGN 5 on Operator Competence.

Financial provision

According to Companies House, the Operator entered administration on 24 August 2020. The company has now left the state of administration following approval of a

Company Voluntary Arrangement on 29 December 2020, the status on Companies House records indicates as such that the company is within a Voluntary Arrangement. A Company Voluntary Arrangement is an agreement with creditors to allow the company to continue trading and enable the company to pay debts to creditors over a fixed period. Internal NRW legal advice has been sought and it has been agreed that there is no known reason to consider that the Operator will not be financially able to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 5 on Operator Competence.

OPRA

The OPRA score at issue is 259. The OPRA score will be used as the basis for subsistence and other charging, in accordance with our Charging Scheme. OPRA is Natural Resources Wales' method of ensuring application and subsistence fees are appropriate and proportionate for the level of regulation required.