

By email: <u>LecointeC@rpsgroup.com</u>

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Dear Mr Lecointe,

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2017

REQUEST FOR SCREENING OPINION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON A PROPOSED VARIATION

Thank you for your letter of 12 April 2018 on behalf of TATA Chemicals (Europe) Limited ("the Developer"). The letter requested a screening opinion under Regulation 10 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 ("the 2017 Regulations") by the Secretary of State on an application the Developer intends to submit for a variation to its consent of 2 October 2012 for an energy from waste generating station at the TATA Lostock Works site in Northwich, Cheshire.

The Secretary of State has considered the information within the supplied documentation and has taken the following factors into account in reaching his decision:

- The proposed development does not fall within Schedule 1 (mandatory EIA);
- The proposed development falls under Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations as the proposed variation will not result in a change or extension to the generating station which meets the threshold set out in Schedule 1:
- The proposed development is not located within any "sensitive area" as defined in paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations, although the Secretary of State notes that the development is located within 15 kilometres of a number of nationally, internationally and locally designated sites; and
- The Local Planning Authority (Cheshire West and Chester Council), having assessed
 the characteristic, location and impact of the proposed variations, has concluded that
 the proposed development is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment
 and recommend that an EIA is not required.



Taking account of the above factors, the Secretary of State concludes that the documents provided with your screening opinion request are sufficient. The Secretary of State confirms that the proposed works do not require a statutory EIA as they are unlikely to have significant effects on the environment due to their nature, location and size.

A copy of this letter has been sent to Hazel Honeysett, Principle Planning Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council for information.

Yours sincerely,

Naomí Williams

Naomi Williams Energy Infrastructure Consents