Planning and EIA

Battery Storage & Gas Peaking

**Client:** Sainc Energy  
**Project Location:** Fife

**Project Overview**
Atmos managed the planning application and provided technical services for the development of a project which comprised of a 19.8MW gas peaking plant and a 20MW battery storage plant in Kirkcaldy. The battery storage element is the first of its kind in the area and will play a key role in contributing to the stability of the national grid network on demand. In addition the project proposes to include a Centre for developing innovative energy technologies.

**Key Challenges**
This project was challenging given the innovative nature of the development which required significant iterations and learning to develop a viable design that the Council would understand and support. In addition a lack of manufacture data available for project components posed a significant challenge as limited evidence was available to support that the project would not have a significant impact on the environment.

**Our Solutions**
A close working relationship with the client, technical specialists and the Council enabled the development a viable and permittable design. Appropriate models had to be developed for noise and air quality that would stand up to planning interrogation and accurately represent the development. These were based on clear assumptions, best practice and setting out appropriate actions that could be implemented as conditions following consent.

**The Successful Outcome**
Following significant discussion with the Council and consultees some additional assessment was undertaken to fully relay concerns. Planning was successfully granted subject to conditions in April 2017.

This project is an excellent opportunity for the local area representing significant investment. With a total project value of £28m, local benefit to the area will be both economic and social as a number of jobs will be created during construction and for the operation of the gas peaking and development centre. In addition the development centre will provide a unique opportunity for the locale to contribute to innovation.

**What our client said**
“We are delighted to have secured planning consent for this important project that will support the Energy market and invest in innovation to help meet Scottish Government’s renewable energy targets. I would like to thank Atmos Consulting for their professional and diligent work in getting us to this stage”

Kamaljit Sood, Sainc Energy Ltd.
Our EIA Capabilities

At Atmos we understand the importance of a consentable development. We have successfully delivered a considerable number of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and produced many Environmental Statements (ESs) for a diverse range of development projects.

Our approach is to focus the EIA process upon the key issues and take a proportionate approach to the assessment to minimise project risk and maximise opportunities for success.

Our highly experienced and talented consultants include Planners, EIA Consultants, Noise Consultants, Ecologists Ornithologists, hydrologists and GIS specialists. Together they bring an enviable skill set encompassing strategy, planning, technical and environmental expertise. Working as an integrated part or your team they:

- Define a clear project scope by initiating an early and effective consultation process
- Create a clear project strategy to identify critical project issues and risks at the earliest opportunity.
- Design pragmatic solutions that mitigate future scrutiny and challenge. Saving you time, money and wasted effort.
- Deliver robust Environmental Appraisals that address regulatory requirements and guidance.

Depending on the nature of your development, a full EIA may not always be required. We have successfully screened many client projects as non-EIA submissions saving valuable time and money.

Our Solutions

We offer our clients the full EIA package through to providing specific subject chapters. Chose from an integrated service approach or one of our specialist services to seamlessly feed into your project.

Our solutions include:

- Acoustic and Noise Impact Assessments
- Coordination and Project Management
- Ecological Impact Assessments
- Energy Management and sustainability
- Environmental Due Diligence
- Expert Witness
- GIS and Data Solutions
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology Impact Assessments
- Integrated Design and Technical Advice
- Site Feasibility and Scoping
- Stakeholder and Public Consultation

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