



INCLUSION OF SHALE GAS PRODUCTION PROJECTS IN THE NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT REGIME

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

We welcome the opportunity to submit a response on this consultation.

With regard to the proposal to include major shale gas production projects in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project regime, we consider that this is a matter for Government. The precise arrangements for handling these projects within the NSIP regime would of course need to maintain the same degree of protection for the historic environment as exists in the current system. This would be supported by the preparation of a National Policy Statement on shale gas.

This response was prepared by the Government Advice Team of Historic England.