



LONGRIDGE RD

ENERGY CENTRE

Planning Application

The planning application process is a formal, consultative sequence of events. It is governed by legislation and is designed to allow the input of expert and interested parties into the decision making process.

The planning application for Longridge Road Energy Centre is a full planning application, which means that the proposals are described in detail. This planning application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

The planning authority will consider the proposals against the policies in the adopted local Development Plan. Compliance with the Development Plan is a key issue in determining planning applications. Planning permission is required before a development can go ahead.

Lancashire County Council are the planning authority for the Longridge Road Energy Centre proposals.

Pre-application consultation

Before submitting the planning application, we will be publicised the development proposals during a pre-application consultation.

Post-submission consultation

Now that the planning application has been submitted and registered, the planning authority will invite interested parties to comment on the proposals. Such parties may be expert bodies, regulatory authorities and local groups or individuals. Advertisements, where required, are placed in a local newspaper and onsite – identifying how planning application documents can be viewed and how to comment on them. The project website will also include this information.

Consideration and decision

The planning application is assessed by planning officers, taking into account planning policies, consultation responses and public representations. Having considered all the information, the planning officer will make a recommendation in a report. The planning authority will decide, usually at its Planning Committee, whether planning permission is to be granted and any conditions to be attached to the planning permission. Committee meetings are held in public and all interested parties are free to attend and observe how a decision is reached.

Environmental Permit

Planning permission will allow Longridge Road Energy Centre to be constructed but it will require an Environmental Permit from the Environment Agency (EA) to operate. Many of the same issues considered by the planning authority will be taken into account by the EA in the permit application and determination process but it will be more detailed in respect of the operation of the plant. Unlike planning permission, an Environmental Permit may be amended, suspended or revoked after a plant has been commissioned and hence compliance with it will be a key requirement once the plant is running.