# List of Contents

## Chapters and Appendices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Quinn Group Limited Company Profile</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Outline of the Project</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>EIS Methodology and Format</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.1</td>
<td>Statutory Requirements</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.2</td>
<td>EIS Methodology</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.3</td>
<td>EIS Format</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.4</td>
<td>EIS Scoping</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.5</td>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Sub-Consultants Engaged</td>
<td>1-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Key Challenges Encountered</td>
<td>1-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Background to the Project</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Need for the Facility</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Main Alternative Technologies Considered</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Alternative Sites Considered</td>
<td>2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.1</td>
<td>Regional Site Selection</td>
<td>2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.2</td>
<td>Local Site Selection</td>
<td>2-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Description of the Development</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Existing Environment</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Principal Design Objectives</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Main Features of the Project</td>
<td>3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Plant Design</td>
<td>3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Plant Components</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Processes and Facilities</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.1</td>
<td>Combined Cycle Process</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.2</td>
<td>Dry Low Nitrogen Oxide Burners</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.3</td>
<td>Plant Efficiency</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.4</td>
<td>Plant Facilities</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.5</td>
<td>Plant Structures</td>
<td>3-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.6</td>
<td>Materials Used</td>
<td>3-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>Design Constraints</td>
<td>3-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>Construction Activities</td>
<td>3-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9.1</td>
<td>Construction Phase Description and Duration</td>
<td>3-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9.2</td>
<td>Construction Staff and Facilities</td>
<td>3-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.9.3</td>
<td>Site Preparation</td>
<td>3-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.9.4 Construction Phase Site Management
3.10 Operational Phase Site Management
3.11 Regulatory Control of the Facility
3.12 European Regulations and International Agreements
3.13 Decommissioning of Plant

4 Planning & Policy Context
4.1 Introduction
4.2 National Policy Guidance
4.3 Regional Policy Guidance
4.4 Louth County Council County Development Plan 2003-2009
4.5 Planning Application Strategy
4.6 Conclusion

5 Landscape and Visual
5.1 Introduction
5.2 Methodology
5.2.1 Definitions and Methodology Employed
5.2.2 ZVI Production
5.2.3 Photomontage Production
5.2.4 Prediction and Evaluation of Landscape and Visual Impacts
5.3 Description of the Receiving Environment
5.3.1 Development Site
5.3.2 Neighbouring Areas
5.3.3 The Local Landscape Character of the Site
5.4 Landscape Policy and Designations
5.4.1 Policy
5.4.2 Designated Areas
5.5 Zones of Visual Influence and Viewpoints
5.6 Landscape and Visual Impact Mitigation
5.6.1 Embedded Mitigation Measures
5.6.2 Additional Measures to Mitigate Landscape and Visual Impact
5.6.3 Measures to Mitigate Impacts During Construction
5.6.4 Long Term Management Measures
5.7 Long Term Impacts on Landscape Resources and Character
5.7.1 Sources of Impact on the Landscape and Direct Impacts on the Site
5.7.2 Landscape Impacts in the Wider Area
5.7.3 Impacts on the Landscape Setting of Designated Landscapes
5.8 Long-term Visual Impacts
5.8.1 Potential Receptors
5.8.2 Results
5.9 Landscape and Visual Impacts During Construction and Maintenance
5.10 Limitations of this Assessment
5.11 Summary Conclusion
6  Roads and Traffic
   6.1  Introduction
   6.2  Methodology
   6.3  Receiving Environment
       6.3.1  Site Location
       6.3.2  Local Road Network
   6.4  Model Choice and Trip Attraction
   6.5  Trip Distribution
       6.5.1  Construction Phase
       6.5.2  Operational Phase
   6.6  Assignment of Development Traffic
   6.7  Assessment Years
   6.8  Highway Impact
   6.9  Internal Layout
   6.10  Road Safety Audit
   6.12  Impacts
   6.13  Mitigation
   6.14  Residual Impacts
   6.15  Summary Conclusion

7  Socio-economic Impacts
   7.1  Introduction
   7.2  Methodology
       7.2.1  Desk Based Review
       7.2.2  Consultation
   7.3  Receiving Environment
       7.3.1  General
       7.3.2  Population
       7.3.3  Age Structure
       7.3.4  Employment
       7.3.5  Land Use & Zoning
       7.3.6  Public Utilities
       7.3.7  Roads, Rail and Other Public Transport
       7.3.8  Businesses in the area
       7.3.9  Tourism and Amenities
       7.3.10 Future Plans for the County
   7.4  Impacts
       7.4.1  Construction Phase Impacts
       7.4.2  Operational Phase Impacts
   7.5  Mitigation Measures
       7.5.1  Construction Phase
       7.5.2  Operational Phase
   7.6  Residual Impacts
7.7 Summary Conclusion

8 Noise and Vibration

8.1 Introduction

8.2 Noise Sensitive Receptors

8.3 Noise Sensitive Locations

8.4 Methodology and Assessment Criteria

8.5 Existing Noise Environment

8.6 Assessment Criteria

8.7 Noise Mitigation Assessment

8.8 Noise Impact Assessment during the Operational Phase

8.9 Construction Phase Noise Impact

8.10 Mitigation of Operational Noise

8.11 Residual Noise Impact

8.12 Summary Conclusion

9 Climate and Air Quality

9.1 Introduction

9.2 Climate

9.3 Air Quality

9.4 Operational Phase Impacts

9.5 Percentage Oxidation of Nitrogen Monoxide to Nitrogen Dioxide
Proposed 450 MW Power Plant at Toomes, Co. Louth

Environmental Impact Statement

Mott MacDonald Pettit
Quinn Group
23591300043N

9.4.8 Emission Data
9.4.9 Stack Height Determination
9.4.10 Modelling Results
9.4.11 Summary
9.5 Construction Phase Impacts
9.6 Mitigation Measures
9.6.1 Construction Phase
9.6.2 Operational Phase
9.7 Summary Conclusion

10 Ecology
10.1 Introduction
10.2 Methodology
10.2.1 Introduction
10.2.2 Desk-top Review and Consultations
10.2.3 Scope of the Ecological Assessment
10.2.4 Field Surveys
10.2.5 Habitats and Flora
10.2.6 Fauna
10.2.7 Ecological Evaluation
10.3 Receiving Environment
10.3.1 Surrounding Landscape
10.3.2 Designated Sites Within or Adjacent to the Site
10.4 Field Survey Results
10.4.1 Habitats
10.4.2 Fauna
10.4.3 Invertebrates
10.4.4 Amphibians
10.5 Site Evaluation
10.6 Description of Predicted Impacts
10.6.1 Evaluation Criteria
10.6.2 General Impacts
10.6.3 Designated Conservation Areas
10.6.4 Permanent Impacts on Habitats & Species
10.6.5 Impacts to Terrestrial Fauna
10.7 Mitigation Measures
10.8 Residual Impacts
10.9 Limitation Encountered During the Assessment
10.10 Summary Conclusion

11 Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology
11.1 Introduction
11.2 Methodology
11.2.1 Desk-based Study
11.2.2 Field Study
11.2.3 Impact Assessment Methodology
11.3 Receiving Environment
Proposed 450 MW Power Plant at Toomes, Co. Louth
Environmental Impact Statement

13.5.2 Fishery Potential
13.5.3 Proposed Discharge Point

13.6 Potential Significant Impacts
13.6.1 Construction Phase Impacts
13.6.2 Operational Phase Impacts

13.7 Mitigation Measures
13.7.1 Construction Phase
13.7.2 Operational Phase

13.8 Residual Impacts

13.9 Summary Conclusion

14 Interaction of the Foregoing
14.1 Introduction
14.2 Socio-economics Interactions
14.3 Landscape & Visual Impact Interactions
14.4 Noise Interactions
14.5 Climate & Air Quality Interactions
14.6 Water Interactions
14.7 Soils, Geology & Hydrogeology Interactions

15 References
Appendices

Appendix 1.1 Letter from An Bord Pleanála
Appendix 1.2 Letter from National Parks and Wildlife Service
Appendix 1.3 Consultation Submissions and Comments
Appendix 1.4 Invitation to Public Consultation
Appendix 6.1 Traffic Data
Appendix 6.2 Picady Printout
Appendix 6.3 Stage 1 Road Safety Audit
Appendix 8.1 Baseline Noise Survey Details
Appendix 8.2 Operational Plant Noise Source Levels
Appendix 8.3 Predicted Operational Noise Controls
Appendix 8.4 Construction Plant Teams
Appendix 10.1 Designated Sites
Appendix 10.2 Habitat Map
Appendix 10.3 Site Evaluation
Appendix 11.1 Ground Investigation Report
Appendix 12.1 Recorded Archaeological Monuments and Places
Appendix 12.2 Recorded Archaeological Finds
Appendix 12.3 Published Archaeological Excavations
Appendix 12.4 Architectural Heritage
Appendix 13.1 Letter from Group Water Scheme
LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1 Site Location
Figure 1.2 Site Context
Figure 2.1 Peak Demand Increase
Figure 2.2 Alternative Sites Considered
Figure 3.1 Site Location
Figure 3.2 Site Context
Figure 3.3 Site Layout
Figure 3.4 Steam Cycle Schematic
Figure 3.5 Site Elevations
Figure 3.6 Peak Construction Period
Figure 4.1 Gateways and Hubs
Figure 5.1 Local Landscape Character Areas
Figure 5.2 Landscape Designations
Figure 5.3 Zone of Visual Influence
Figure 5.4 Viewpoint Locations
Figure 5.5a Landscape Mitigation
Figure 5.5b Landscape Mitigation
Figure 5.6a Viewpoint 3
Figure 5.6b Viewpoint 37
Figure 5.6c Viewpoint 39
Figure 5.6d Viewpoint 51
Figure 5.6e Viewpoint 53
Figure 6.1 Junction Location Map
Figure 6.2 Overall Junction Layout
Figure 6.3 Junction Layouts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure 6.4</td>
<td>Priority T-junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 6.5</td>
<td>Junction Visibility Splays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 6.6</td>
<td>R178 T-junction Visibility Splays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 7.1</td>
<td>Percentage Change in Population, (2002 – 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 7.2</td>
<td>Population Density 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 7.3</td>
<td>Age Structure in County Louth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 8.1</td>
<td>Noise Monitoring Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 9.1</td>
<td>Air Quality Monitoring Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 9.2</td>
<td>Dublin Airport Wind Roses. (2002-2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 9.3</td>
<td>Stack Height Determination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 9.4</td>
<td>Hourly Average Contour Plot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 9.5</td>
<td>Annual Average Contour Plot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 10.1</td>
<td>Illustration of Wet Woodland Alder Carr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 10.2</td>
<td>Illustration of Dense Stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 10.3</td>
<td>Illustration of Species Rich Wet Grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 11.1</td>
<td>Borehole Location Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 11.2</td>
<td>Aquifer Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 11.3</td>
<td>Vulnerability Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 11.4</td>
<td>Groundwater Wells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 11.5</td>
<td>Radon Map of County Louth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 12.1</td>
<td>Recorded Archaeological Monuments and Places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 12.2</td>
<td>Down Survey Map, (1656)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 12.3</td>
<td>Ordnance Survey Map, (1835)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 12.4</td>
<td>Extent of Proposed Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 13.1</td>
<td>EPA Monitoring Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 13.2</td>
<td>Drainage Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 13.3</td>
<td>Water Supply and Discharge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF PLATES

Plate 12.1  Field 1, northern boundary
Plate 12.2  Field 1, looking south
Plate 12.3  Field 1, western boundary
Plate 12.4  Boundary between field 1 and field 2
Plate 12.5  Field 2
Plate 12.6  Field 2, western boundary
Plate 12.7  Field 3, looking north
Plate 12.8  Field 5
Plate 12.9  North of field 5
Plate 12.10 Field 6
LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1 Submissions Received
Table 2.1 Electricity Capacity Forecast
Table 2.2 Plant Closure Timelines
Table 2.3 Forecast of Peak Transmission
Table 2.4 Local Site Selection Assessment Criteria
Table 3.1 Dimensions of Main Enclosures
Table 3.2 Construction Timelines
Table 5.1 Levels of Significance of Landscape Impacts
Table 5.2 Levels of Significance of Visual Impacts
Table 5.3 Theoretical ZVI
Table 5.4 Assessment of Visual Impacts at Selected Viewpoints
Table 5.5 Proposed Planting Mixes
Table 6.1 2007 Traffic Count Figures Morning Peak
Table 6.2 2007 Traffic Count Figures Evening Peak
Table 6.3 Trip Distribution Directional Split on R178
Table 6.4 NRA Future Traffic Forecasts, 2007 – 2025
Table 6.5 2010 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 1
Table 6.6 2025 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 1
Table 6.7 2010 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 2 and Access Junction
Table 6.8 2025 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 2 and Access Junction
Table 6.9 2010 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 4
Table 6.10 2025 Traffic Movements Morning & Evening Peak at Junction 4
Table 6.11 Junction 1 – Existing T Junction Access onto R178 Road from LP1143
Table 6.12 Junction 2 & Development Access onto LP1143 Road
Table 6.13 Junction 4 – T Junction Access onto R178 Road
Table 7.1 Population Trends
Table 7.2  Population Increases
Table 7.3  Employment Status
Table 7.4  Overseas Tourism to Louth
Table 7.5  Revenue Generated by Overseas Tourists to Louth
Table 8.1  Description of Monitoring Locations
Table 8.2  Baseline Noise Level Summary