

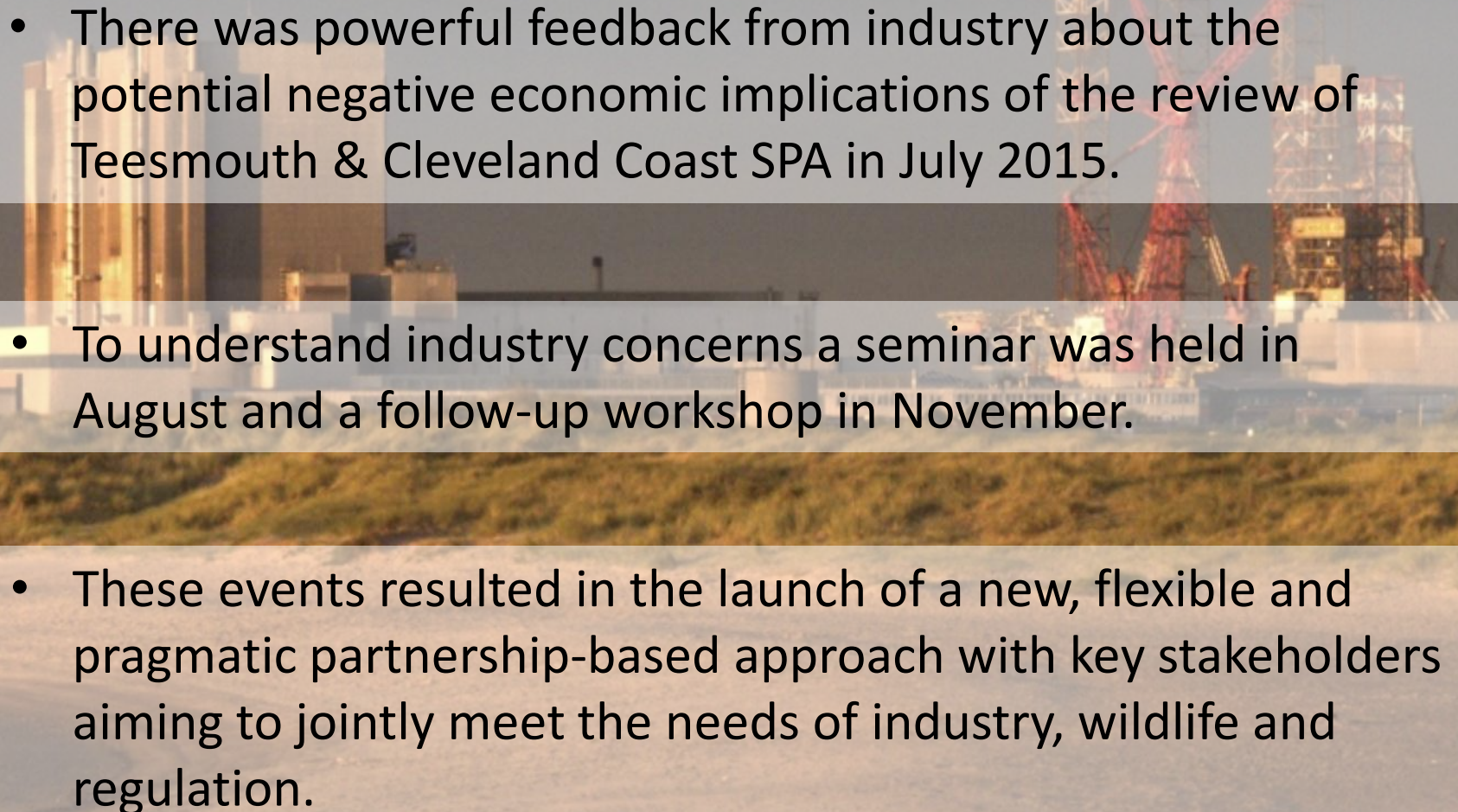


# Defining a New Way Forward for Industry and Nature in the Tees Estuary



- The Tees is an 'industrial' river which historically has suffered much ecological damage, yet retains high environmental and economic importance by virtue of more recent co-operation between industry and nature conservation.
- Alongside industry the Tees estuary can boast internationally important waterbird numbers, salmon and sea trout populations, breeding harbour seals, important tern colonies and one of the most successful wetland wildlife public attractions in the country. These assets continue to be managed by existing co-operation between stakeholders on the river.



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- The background of the slide is a photograph of an industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant, during the "blue hour" of dusk. Several tall distillation columns and a large red crane are visible against a darkening sky. The foreground shows a grassy field.
- There was powerful feedback from industry about the potential negative economic implications of the review of Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast SPA in July 2015.
  - To understand industry concerns a seminar was held in August and a follow-up workshop in November.
  - These events resulted in the launch of a new, flexible and pragmatic partnership-based approach with key stakeholders aiming to jointly meet the needs of industry, wildlife and regulation.

## Risk – The Old Approach

An imposed solution leading to poor progress and long term conflict over implementation and management

## Opportunity – A New Approach

A collaborative solution with minimal impacts on industry and other stakeholders, and enhanced outcomes for environmental objectives



# TEP - The New Approach

- Launched in January 2016. A mandate to develop a common vision for the estuary to meet industry and wildlife needs.
- Membership comprising industrial organisations, regulators, local authority, and nature conservation NGOs.
- Broader scope than just SPA review.
- Creative solutions, flexibility and pragmatism from all involved.
- Gaining political support for working with businesses over a longer time than the SPA review initially allowed.

# What Does it Involve?

- Ecological evidence-based and accurate pSPA boundary.
- Identifying existing and aspirational industrial land-use.
- Identifying wider environmental interests /ambitions relating to areas of key importance for wildlife.
- Up front identification of synergies, potential conflicts and strategic solutions with key landowners.
- Aiming for minimal effect on current operations.  
Streamline processes and guidance to give clarity for future operations and confidence in locating new businesses.
- Identifying funding streams / mechanisms.



# Summary

- Partnership and collaboration rather than imposition and conflict.
- Much greater certainty for business and potential developers.
- Opportunities to deliver new and exciting conservation projects which really benefit wildlife and people.
- Opportunities for continued inward investment.
- A unique opportunity to create continuous improvement.