



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

Email: [beiseip@beis.gov.uk](mailto:beiseip@beis.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.gov.uk/beis](http://www.gov.uk/beis)

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To:

**Natural England**

cc: NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 4 November 2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Application by NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited for a variation to an Order granting Development Consent for the Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station and associated infrastructure (“HPC”)**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

I refer to the application to make Non-Material Changes to The Hinkley Point C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2013 (as amended) (“the Application”) submitted by NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited (“the Applicant”) on 28 July 2020, in respect of the Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station.

The Secretary of State is considering the Application and requests further information from **Natural England** on its views on the omission of the Severn Estuary Special Protection Area from the Applicant’s assessment of impacts and upon the Applicant’s response to consultation on this matter published on the Planning Inspectorate’s website on 9 October 2020. In particular, he seeks comments on the Applicant’s statement that:

*“We acknowledge the omission of the Severn Estuary SPA as an affected site. We can confirm that the proposed changes relate to minor on site building changes and would not affect construction activities associated with the temporary jetty, seawall, cooling water infrastructure and Comwich Wharf; therefore there would be no additional impact on the Severn Estuary SAC / SPA/ Ramsar site feature (Inter-tidal mudflats and sandflats) and site integrity over and above what has already been assessed by the SoS. Whilst there would be a change to the cooling water infrastructure resulting from the amendment to the Filtering Debris Recovery Pit, there would be no change in the functionality of the building. Therefore, there would be no additional operational impact on the Severn Estuary SAC / SPA/ Ramsar*

*site feature (estuaries) and site integrity over and above what has already been assessed within the original DCO application.”*

The deadline for responses to be submitted is 19 November 2020.

The responses should be submitted by email to:

[HPCNuclear@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:HPCNuclear@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Responses will be published on the Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station project page of the Planning Inspectorate’s National Infrastructure Planning Portal website as soon as possible after 19 November 2020.

This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s decision whether or not to grant changes sought to The Hinkley Point C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2013 (as amended) and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

*Gareth Leigh*

Gareth Leigh  
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning