

Mark Wilson
Case Leader
Infrastructure Planning Commission
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN



22nd June 2010

Dear Mark

Proposed Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point – Statutory Consultees for Stage 2

You wrote to me on 19th March 2010 notifying me of the statutory consultees that the Commission had consulted in relation to EDF Energy's request for a scoping opinion made in late January 2010.

I understand that in a telephone conversation between yourself, Shelia Twiddle, Ian Bryant and Catherine Howard on 24th March 2010, Ian informed you that the Commission had consulted a number of bodies for the purpose of scoping that EDF Energy had not consulted for the purpose of Stage 1 of its pre-application consultation on the above project.

I believe you discussed in brief why the Commission considered that these bodies might be relevant statutory consultees for the purpose of scoping. However, you made clear that EDF Energy should take its own view on the extent to which these additional bodies should be consulted as statutory consultees under s42 Planning Act 2008 at Stage 2 of EDF Energy's pre-application consultation.

As I think Ian mentioned in your conversation, EDF Energy considers that it consulted extremely widely at Stage 1. We in fact consulted a number of bodies which the Commission chose not to consult for the purpose of scoping; in particular, many parish and town councils, the Quantock Hills AONB, the Mendip Hills AONB, First Great Western, British Telecommunications plc, Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council.

Of the bodies that the additional bodies consulted by the Commission for scoping, we note that the vast majority either did not respond or responded to say that they had no comments. We believe this is a clear indication that these bodies have little interest in the proposed application. As such we do not propose to consult them at Stage 2.

Three of the additional bodies contacted by the Commission for the purpose of scoping did respond with comments, however. These bodies are: Durleigh Parish Council, Direct Rail Services Ltd and Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd. We therefore propose to add these bodies to our statutory consultees under s42 Planning Act 2008 for Stage 2 of our consultation.



I trust that the Commission will consider that this represents a sensible approach. However, if you have any concerns I would be grateful if you would let me know before we launch our Stage 2 consultation on 9th July 2010.

Yours sincerely,


Richard Mayson
Director of Planning and External Affairs