



Meeting note

Project name	Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station
File reference	EN010001
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	20 July 2018
Meeting with	EDF Energy
Venue	Concorde, TQH, Bristol
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 (s51) of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under s51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Welcome and introductions

The Applicant and the Inspectorate introduced themselves and their respective roles.

Project update

The Applicant provided an update in relation to the proposed change to the Development Consent Order (DCO) to remove a requirement to install an Acoustic Fish Deterrent (AFD). This is being treated by the Applicant as a material change as the Applicant intends to submit an updated Environmental Statement (ES) and updated information to inform a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) in relation to the change.

Preparation work is ongoing and the Applicant is continuing discussions with members of the Marine Technical Forum (MTF): The Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the Environment Agency (EA) and Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries Conservation Agency (IFCA).

The Applicant intends to prepare an overview document which would also be used for pre-application consultation. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to have regard to all responses to the consultation. The Inspectorate also advised the Applicant to treat Regulation 12 (Duty to notify the appropriate authority of a proposed application) in the same way as a s46 notice under PA2008, and issue to the Inspectorate before the commencement of consultation.

The Applicant intends to submit an application to the EA to vary the Environmental Permit in approximately autumn 2018 (ahead of the submission of the change



application), and to align its own pre-application consultation on the DCO change application with the EA's permit consultation, which would be based on the same documents. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to discuss this with the EA, as this could result in a confusion for consultees (for example comments meant for the EA in relation to the Environmental Permit may instead be sent to the Applicant). The Applicant is discussing this with the EA.

The Applicant anticipates being in a position to submit an application to Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) early in 2019. The Applicant also intends to submit the Marine Licence variation to the MMO at the same time as submitting the change application to BEIS.

The Inspectorate advised that it could provide s51 advice on the draft change application documents; however, it wouldn't be possible to include comments on the full ES. The Applicant confirmed that their ES will be focussed towards the specific change and will be consistent with the requirements of the 2017 EIA Regulations to the extent that this is appropriate. The Applicant confirmed that they do not presently intend to request a new Scoping Opinion from the Inspectorate.

The Regulations do not prescribe for an 'acceptance' stage upon submission of the application. The Inspectorate envisages that checks of the documents and their standard will be carried out within a period of no longer than 28 days.

The Inspectorate advised that it is actively engaged in discussions with BEIS regarding the operation of the material change process.

In terms of the consultation strategy, the Applicant continues with the ongoing engagement with the Marine Technical Forum. The Applicant will inform Local Authorities (LAs) of the proposals prior to the consultation, and will engage with relevant community and interest groups in advance of the consultation starting. It also intends to prepare short factual statements in relation to the planned changes, based on technical information to ensure that all consultees are fully informed.

The Inspectorate enquired as to whether the Applicant intends to make any further non-material changes to the DCO.

The Applicant advised that as per Regulation 16 of The Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011, it will comply with the requirement to show which documents have been updated, and will provide a schedule to highlight the changes being made. However, the Applicant does not envisage any amendments to landowners and land interests as only offshore interests will be affected.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required

- The Applicant will share the proposed consultation strategy with the Inspectorate
- The Inspectorate will provide an estimate of the time periods and further details of the decision-making process which are not prescribed in the Regulations, following further discussions with the Departments.