



Meeting note

File reference	Wylfa New Nuclear Power Station EN010007
Status	Final
Author	Richard Kent
Date	15 May 2015
Meeting with	Horizon Nuclear Power
Venue	Teleconference (10.00 – 10.30am)
Attendees	Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) Adrian Hutchings (Technical Director, Jacobs) James Cook (HNP) The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) Sheila Twidle (Head of Environmental Services) Laura Allen (Senior EIA Advisor) Richard Kent (EIA Advisor)
Meeting objectives	To discuss HNP's approach to Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) transboundary consultation
Circulation	Attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Introductions were made and PINS stated that any advice provided would be published as s51 advice.

HNP explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss their proposed approach to HRA transboundary consultation for the Wylfa project. HNP cited guidance from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)¹ as the reason for seeking to agree the extent and format of transboundary consultation with PINS. The meeting was not to discuss wider EIA transboundary issues, although all parties acknowledged this was important and should be considered as part of any consultation exercise.

HNP explained their approach to identifying the project's potential zones of influence on European Sites, with particular reference to mobile species (e.g. marine mammals and birds). A radius of 150km around the site boundary is currently being used. HNP noted some sites are likely to be 'screened out' from assessment, whilst others may require further consideration under the HRA process.

¹ Guidelines on the assessment of transboundary impacts of energy developments on Natura 2000 sites outside the UK (March 2015): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidelines-on-the-assessment-of-transboundary-impacts-of-energy-developments-on-natura-2000-sites-outside-the-uk>

HNP are currently running a HRA working group with key stakeholders in Wales, and their intention is to extend the remit of this group as required to consider relevant agencies in other countries as a means of transboundary consultation. Over the coming months HNP intends to engage in discussions with the relevant agencies of those countries identified. HNP has produced a 'HRA Framework' document for discussion with the working group and it is intended that this document is also shared with these agencies.

HNP had provided PINS with some information regarding possible countries and bodies to consult – these were Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland. Of these countries currently identified, PINS clarified that only the Republic of Ireland would require consultation in a transboundary context, as England, Scotland and Northern Ireland are all devolved administrations of the UK. Nonetheless, PINS agreed the importance of consultation with the devolved administrations, and also encouraged HNP to consider other formal consultation with the agencies of these devolved administrations, as required by the PA2008.

PINS asked HNP to consider the extent to which potential effects on European sites in other EU states, beyond that currently identified, are going to be considered. HNP stated that work was on-going, but that such matters would be considered as appropriate.

PINS advised consultation with the Isle of Man as a crown dependency. HNP stated that consultation with the Isle of Man is on-going (in terms of the project as a whole) and that they would give consideration to the need for any HRA specific consultation.

HNP agreed to provide PINS with a summary document to outline the format and extent of proposed HRA transboundary consultation, which PINS will review and comment on. PINS advised such a document should clearly explain HNP's reasoning for including or excluding other EU states on the basis of the assessment of transboundary impacts on Natura 2000 sites outside the UK.

Actions

- HNP to send a copy of the HRA transboundary consultation summary document to PINS. PINS to review and comment.
- HNP to consider EIA transboundary consultation
- HNP to consider the need for consultation under the Planning Act with the agencies of the devolved administrations in the UK (England, Scotland and Northern Ireland), as appropriate based on HNP's HRA consultation