



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010007
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	
<b>Date</b>	23 January 2017
<b>Meeting with</b>	Horizon – Wylfa
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	Chris White – Planning Inspectorate David Price – Planning Inspectorate Hannah Pratt – Planning Inspectorate Richard Kent – Planning Inspectorate Kieran Somers – Horizon Nuclear Power Roger Parkinson – Horizon Nuclear Power
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) were made aware of the Planning Inspectorate's openness policy, that any advice given will be recorded and placed on the Planning Inspectorate's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) (as amended). Any advice does not constitute legal advice on which the developer or others can rely.

### Cumulative Impact Assessment

Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) referred to a meeting called by the Secretary for State for Wales, held in Cardiff Bay on 19 January 2017. The meeting discussed a potential third bridge crossing of the Menai Strait and its relationship with the North Wales Grid Connection project.

HNP raised concerns with the Planning Inspectorate with regard to the cumulative assessment of the potential third bridge and the proposed Wylfa Newydd Generating Station. In particular, HNP noted their intent to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application in Autumn 2017 and were concerned that insufficient information would be available on the third bridge by this time.

The Planning Inspectorate explained that the EIA Directive requires an assessment of cumulative impacts with other plans and projects. The Planning Inspectorate referred HNP to Planning Inspectorate Advice note 17 (AN17): Cumulative Effects Assessment. AN17 advocates a tiered approach to the assessment which reflects the level of information that is available to inform the assessment and the relative status of the plan or project in its development/application process. It is likely that having regard to the current status and detail available on the potential third crossing, it would fall into

'Tier 3'. It was agreed that at present there is only limited detail available and that the assessment would need to reflect this situation; however, the Planning Inspectorate advised that the project should still be acknowledged and addressed within the cumulative assessment. The Planning Inspectorate would expect the level of assessment to be proportional to the amount of information available, its current status and to the likely relevant impacts; therefore at present this may be at only a high level for the third bridge.

The Planning Inspectorate advised that should the Wylfa Newydd application be made and accepted for examination, and further detail become available on the third bridge, HNP should be prepared to provide further assessment work. Therefore, ongoing liaison with the Welsh Government is advised.

### **Environmental Permits**

The Planning Inspectorate explained that in making their recommendations, the Examining Authority would seek comfort from Natural Resources Wales as to whether there is a likely prospect of an Applicant obtaining the necessary environmental permit(s) for any works within authorised development of the DCO.

### **Working with statutory bodies**

The Planning Inspectorate explained that an Examining Authority is appointed by the Secretary of State and that they have discretion on how to examine an application. As such it would be inappropriate for the Planning Inspectorate to enter into a memorandum of understanding with other parties to agree examination processes.

The way the Planning Inspectorate works with statutory bodies is set out in Advice note 11.

### **The Wales Bill**

HNP explained that if the Wales Bill is enacted, they would submit another scoping request to the Planning Inspectorate which incorporated associated development within the project description. The Planning Inspectorate advised HNP to ensure that in drafting the Scoping Report, it considers the advice given previously and that the report is clear on which elements of the development and potential effects are 'new'.

HNP also confirmed they would undertake further pre-application consultation as a result of the changes to the project description.