



Meeting note

File reference	EN010007
Status	Final
Author	Hannah Pratt
Date	27 March 2017
Meeting with	Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
Venue	Teleconference
Attendees	Planning Inspectorate (PINS): Helen Lancaster Hannah Pratt Richard Kent Chris White NRW: Henry Aron Iwan Williams Scott Leighton Gail Butterill Bryn Griffiths Adam Cooper
Meeting objectives	To discuss the Wylfa Newydd Generating Station project
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of discussion

NRW explained that Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) has been undertaking an optimisation project to review the design, cost and schedule of the Wylfa Newydd Generating Station. During this time, NRW has had reduced engagement with HNP.

NRW explained that due to delays in the optimisation process and detailed design, NRW understands that it will no longer receive the environmental permit applications (with the possible exception of the Radioactive Substances Permit) in advance of the DCO submission. As a result, NRW explained that, whilst it would be able to give the view of progress made on the applications during the examination of the DCO, it may not be able to reach the 'minded to stage'. NRW stated the optimal time to receive the environmental permit applications would be two months before submission of the DCO. NRW and PINS discussed the risks to HNP with this approach.

NRW confirmed it still expects to receive the marine licence application in parallel with the DCO submission and that it does not issue 'minded to' advice in relation to marine licences.

PINS confirmed that in drafting a recommendation report, an examining authority can only take into account information submitted with the application or during an examination. Any project related submissions received after an examination closes will be passed on to the Secretary of State along with the recommendation report. If required, the Secretary of State may choose to undertake further consultation during the decision stage.

PINS explained that, in accordance with legislation, the acceptance period is no longer than 28 days and the examination stage takes a maximum of 6 months. There is scope for flexibility in the duration of the pre-examination stage; however this part of the process usually takes approximately 3 months from the developer's formal notification and publicity of an accepted application.

NRW consider that HNPs progress on information to inform the Water Framework Directive Assessment and the Habitats Regulations Assessments has been subject to delays. NRW raised concerns that HNP had insufficient time to complete the information to inform these assessments and share drafts with NRW for review / advice prior to submitting applications.

As a result of changes to the proposed development (i.e. the optimisation process, workers' accommodation and the inclusion of associated development), it was noted that HNP intend to submit an EIA scoping report covering these elements. The date of submission is expected to be April/May 2017. HNP will also be undertaking a third round of pre-application consultation (PAC3). NRW explained that HNP's proposed 28 day consultation period would be challenging for consultees and that 6-8 weeks would be preferable.

NRW and PINS discussed a draft paper prepared by NRW in relation to HRA co-ordination between competent authorities, EIA consent deferral in relation to marine licencing, and co-ordination of marine licence conditions and DCO requirements. It was agreed to set up a meeting with BEIS to discuss these issues further.

Actions

- PINS to discuss with Horizon the timing of the environmental permit submission and the dates for PAC3.
- NRW to arrange meeting between BEIS, NRW and PINS.