



The Planning Inspectorate

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All Interested Parties, Statutory Parties
and Other Persons

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010012

Date: 23 February 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 – Section 88 and The Infrastructure Planning
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 –Rule 6, Rule 9, Rule 17**

**Application by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited for an Order
Granting Development Consent for The Sizewell C Project**

Appointment of the Examining Authority

I write to you following my appointment by the Secretary of State as the lead member of a Panel who will be the Examining Authority (the ExA) to carry out an examination of the above application. My name is Wendy McKay and the other members of the Panel are David Brock, Helen Cassini, Neil Humphrey and Edwin Maund. A copy of our appointment notice can be viewed at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010012/EN010012-002290-Notice%20of%20Appointment%20of%20Panel%20of%20Examiners.pdf>

Thank you for the contributions you have made so far, including your Relevant Representations and the return of the completed Virtual Event Questionnaire which provided information to help us decide how we might examine the application.

We have now made proposals taking into account the responses we have received, the [Planning Inspectorate's guidance](#) published in response to Coronavirus (COVID-19), and the likely effect of ongoing public health controls. As a result, we are proposing to start the Examination using virtual methods but

to remain flexible so that, should public health requirements allow, we have the option of holding physical events later in the Examination if we can.

[Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events](#) explains how virtual events will be held and how you can get involved. Please read this material carefully.

Invitation to the Preliminary Meeting

This letter is an invitation to the Preliminary Meeting which will discuss Examination procedures for The Sizewell C Project application. It contains a number of important annexes, including **Annex A** (the Agenda) and **Annex B** which introduces the Preliminary Meeting, explains how it will be conducted and how you can participate.

Dates of meeting: **Tuesday 23 March 2021** (Preliminary Meeting: Part 1); and
Wednesday 14 April 2021 (Preliminary Meeting: Part 2)

Arrangements conference: **Joining from 9.15am on both days**

Meeting begins: **10.00am on both days**

Venue: **Virtual event**
(please refer to Annexes A and B of this letter and [Advice Note 8.6](#))

Please note that the Preliminary Meeting (Part 1) will **adjourn** on Tuesday 23 March 2021 rather than close. Wednesday 14 April 2021 has been reserved for the resumption of the Preliminary Meeting (Part 2). The adjournment period is to allow for the consideration of any written submissions by Interested Parties who did not, or could not, make oral submissions at Part 1 of the event. Any such written submissions must be received by **Procedural Deadline B** on **Wednesday 7 April 2021**.

In the event that submissions to **Procedural Deadline B** do not justify the resumption of the Preliminary Meeting at Part 2, the ExA may decide to close the Preliminary Meeting in writing, without Part 2 taking place. Therefore, **Interested Parties should not rely on Part 2 of the Preliminary Meeting to make oral representations about the Examination procedure.**

Purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting is to enable views to be put to the ExA about the way in which the application is to be examined. At this stage the ExA is looking at the Examination procedure and not the merits or concerns about the application. The Preliminary Meeting is not an opportunity for Interested Parties to put forward their views about what they like or don't like about the application. The merits or concerns about the application will only be considered once the Examination starts, which is after the Preliminary Meeting has closed.

The agenda for the meeting is at **Annex A**. This has been set following our Initial Assessment of Principal Issues arising from our reading of the application

documents and the Relevant Representations received. That assessment was published on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website on 23 October 2020 and is set out again in **Annex C**.

As a result of this assessment we wish to hear from the Applicant, Local Authorities, Interested Parties and Statutory Parties where they consider changes may be needed to the draft Examination Timetable, which is set out in **Annex D**.

Up-to-date information about the project and the Examination can be obtained from the project page on the National Infrastructure Planning website (NI website) from which the Planning Inspectorate will communicate with you and make copies of all Examination Documents available to the public:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/the-sizewell-c-project/?ipcsection=overview>

As the Examination process makes substantial use of electronic documents, it will be useful for you to become familiar with this resource.

There is a function on the right-hand side of the project page called 'E-mail updates'. This provides you with an opportunity to register to receive e-mail updates at key stages of the process and we would encourage you to make use of this.

A link to the livestream of the Preliminary Meeting, and any further virtual Examination events, will be made available on the project page shortly before the event takes place.

Attendance at the Preliminary Meeting

We wish to run a fair, efficient and effective meeting so that all relevant views can be heard. As the Preliminary Meeting will be held virtually, it will be held in two parts separated by an adjournment period. A full explanation of this approach is provided in [Advice Note 8.6](#). Further details about the purpose of the adjournment are also set out in **Annex A**.

Please note that **you are not required to make oral or written submissions at the Preliminary Meeting in order to participate in the Examination**. If you are a registered Interested Party you will still be able to make a Written Representation and comment on the Written Representations made by other Interested Parties during the Examination. You will also be able to participate in any hearings that are arranged. Should you no longer wish to be an Interested Party, and do not wish to be involved in the Examination process, please notify the Case Team whose contact details are at the top of this letter.

Because participation in a virtual Preliminary Meeting relies on the provision of a joining link or telephone number in advance, it is important that you think about whether you wish to speak at the Preliminary Meeting and, if so, confirm your involvement.

If you wish to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting: Part 1 you must confirm your wish to participate by pre-registering with the Case Team using the Preliminary Meeting Participation Form (available below) no later than Procedural Deadline A on Wednesday 10 March 2021:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mN94WIhvg0iTIpmM5VcIjfRylwZyV5dGsusrI9ve7z1URVdUSVFEUFE40VILN1UzOFk2OUVHS1I0MS4u>

When you pre-register for the Preliminary Meeting please tell us which agenda items you intend to speak against, listing points you wish to make. If you feel that you are unable to engage in the Preliminary Meeting through any of the methods described in [Advice Note 8.6](#) or if you have any difficulties completing the form please contact the Case Team by **Procedural Deadline A on Wednesday 10 March 2021**.

The Preliminary Meeting will be livestreamed and recorded. The recording will be published on the project page of the NI website as soon as practicable after Part 1 has adjourned and then again after Part 2 when the Preliminary Meeting formally closes.

We strongly encourage groups of individuals who have similar views on the Examination procedure to choose one representative to speak for the group. There is no need for the same point to be repeated by others. People who have not made a request to participate will still be able to access the livestream and/or the recording of the Preliminary Meeting Part 1 and then make a written submission to the Examination by **Procedural Deadline B on Wednesday 7 April 2021**. Please note the further information set out in **Annex A**.

The requests to participate that are received will be considered and we may contact parties to confirm their type of involvement, in line with the information provided, in advance of the Preliminary Meeting.

After the Preliminary Meeting

After the Preliminary Meeting Part 2 you will be sent a letter, known as the Rule 8 letter, setting out the finalised Examination Timetable. A note of the meeting will also be published on the project page of the NI website.

The Examination will be held using a combination of written and hearing procedures that are explained in [Advice Notes 8.5 and 8.6](#). The Advice Notes also answer questions on procedure and the methods of conducting virtual events.

All hearings are held in public. Where hearings take place virtually, a livestream will be made available on the project page of the NI website and a recording of the event will be published as soon as practicable after each event. Where physical hearings can take place, a recording will be published on the NI website.

All relevant and important matters will be taken into account when the ExA makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy who will take the final decision in this case.

Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority

We have made some Procedural Decisions which are set out at **Annex E** of this letter. These are summarised as follows:

- The setting of deadlines for the submission of Statements of Common Ground and Local Impact Reports.
- The notification by Interested Parties of their wish to attend an Accompanied Site Inspection¹ and their nomination of locations, including justifications, for the consideration of the ExA.
- The notification by Statutory Parties and certain Local Authorities of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party by the ExA.
- The submission of low-resolution documents for use at virtual events.
- The submission and acceptance of post-application documents.

Further questions to the Applicant regarding the relationship between the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) and the Environmental Statement (ES)

In Annex A of its Procedural Decision dated 23 October 2020 [[PD-005](#)] the ExA asked the Applicant a number of questions regarding the relationship between the draft DCO and the ES. The Applicant responded in Appendix B of its Cover Letter dated 16 November 2020 [[AS-006](#)]. Following an exchange of requests for further clarifying points from the ExA and subsequent responses from the Applicant the ExA now have some further questions and observations on the last such response submitted by the Applicant on 4 February 2021 [[AS-293](#)]. The questions and observations are set out in **Annex F** of this letter.

Managing Examination correspondence

Given the volume and frequency of letters the Planning Inspectorate needs to send to Interested Parties during an Examination, we aim to communicate with people by email wherever possible as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer.

If you have received a postal letter but are able to receive communications by email, please confirm this with the Case Team as soon as possible.

Your status in the Examination

You have received this letter because you fall within one of the groups described in the Planning Inspectorate's document [What is My Status in the Examination?](#)

If your reference number begins with '2002', 'SIZE-AFP', 'SIZE-APL' you are in Group A. If your reference number begins with 'SIZE-SP' you are in Group B and

¹ An ASI will only go ahead if Government guidance on COVID-19 at that time permits.

if your reference number begins with 'SIZE-OP' you are in Group C. The meaning and purpose of those groups are explained in the document published at the link above.

If having read this document you are still unsure about your status, please contact the Case Team.

Management of information

The Planning Inspectorate has a commitment to transparency. Therefore all information submitted for this project (if accepted by the ExA), and a record of any advice which has been provided by the Planning Inspectorate, is published on the project page on the NI website.

Examination Documents can also be viewed at the locations listed in **Annex G** of this letter.

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair Examination, we consider it necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information please view our [Privacy Notice](#) as amended by **Annex H** of this letter (Your Privacy).

Please note that all Deadlines in the draft Examination Timetable and as referred to in this letter are at **11.59pm** on the Deadline day.

IMPORTANT

The Planning Inspectorate will be providing an electronic portal which parties will be able to use during the Examination to make written submissions at relevant Deadlines. The project page of the NI website will include a new tab titled '**Make a submission**', which can be accessed ahead of each Deadline. Further information will be included in the Rule 8 letter which will be issued as soon as practicable after the Preliminary Meeting.

Award of costs

We also draw your attention to the possibility of the award of costs against Interested Parties who behave unreasonably. You should be aware of the relevant costs guidance 'Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders' which applies to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. This guidance is available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/guidance/>

We look forward to working with all parties in the Examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

Wendy McKay

Wendy McKay
Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

- A** Agenda and Arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting
- B** Introduction to the Preliminary Meeting
- C** Initial Assessment of Principal Issues
- D** Draft Examination Timetable
- E** Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority
- F** Further questions to the Applicant
- G** Availability of Examination Documents
- H** Your Privacy

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) (and the Amendment to it in Annex G to this letter) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

Agenda

Title of meeting:	The Sizewell C Project Preliminary Meeting Part 1
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 23 March 2021*
Arrangements Conference:	Joining from 9.15am
Meeting start time:	10.00am
Venue:	Virtual Event (Microsoft Teams) Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate
Attendees:	Pre-registered parties

This meeting will also be available for people to observe live online via a livestream link which will be published on the project page of the NI website shortly before the meeting is due to start.

Agenda Items 1 to 8 will include reference, where appropriate, to any procedural requests to those items that have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in writing by **Procedural Deadline A on Wednesday 10 March 2021**.

9.15am¹	Please arrive at 9.15am to enter the Preliminary Meeting Lobby where you will be admitted to join the virtual Arrangements Conference.
9.45am	The Arrangements Conference will commence at 9.45am. This will outline the house keeping arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting.
10.00am	
Item 1	Welcome and introductions
Item 2	The Examining Authority's (ExA) remarks about the virtual Preliminary Meeting - Annex A
Item 3	The ExA's remarks about the Examination process - Annex B
Item 4	Initial Assessment of Principal Issues - Annex C
Item 5	The Applicant's proposed changes to the application NOTE: See Annex B for further information about the scope of this Item

Item 6	Draft Examination Timetable – Annex D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadlines for submissions and notifications • Dates and format for hearings • Arrangements for site inspections
Item 7	Procedural Decisions taken by the ExA – Annex E
Item 8	Any other matters
Adjournment of the Preliminary Meeting until Wednesday 14 April 2021	

Agenda

Title of meeting: Preliminary Meeting Part 2 (if required)

Meeting Date: Wednesday 14 April 2021

Arrangements Conference: Joining from 9.15am

Meeting start time: 10.00am

Venue: **Virtual Event (Microsoft Teams)**
Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate

Attendees: Pre-registered parties

This meeting will also be available for people to observe live online via a livestream link which will be published on the project page of the NI website shortly before the meeting is due to start.

9.15am¹	Please arrive at 9.15am to enter the Preliminary Meeting Lobby where you will be admitted to join the virtual Arrangements Conference.
9.45am	The Arrangements Conference will commence at 9.45am. This will outline the house keeping arrangements for the Preliminary Meeting.
10.00am	
Item 1	Resumption of the Preliminary Meeting and welcome
Item 2	The Examining Authority's consideration of written submissions received to Procedural Deadline B
Item 4	Any other matters
Close of the Preliminary Meeting	

The Preliminary Meeting Arrangements

The Preliminary Meeting is to be held virtually and will be conducted as follows:

Preliminary Meeting: Part 1 (Agenda Items 1 to 8)

The agenda is subject to change at the discretion of the ExA, although in making changes the ExA will be mindful of the format of the meeting and the need to provide opportunities for all pre-registered parties to participate.

Please be available from the start and throughout the meeting (or any relevant part or session of the meeting that you are asked to attend). If there are large numbers of requests to speak at this meeting more than one session may need to be held to ensure that those with specific issues to raise, who have requested to be heard, can do so.

Please note that where more than one session is held not all sessions of the meeting will address all parts of the agenda. Where necessary participants will be invited to join a session or sessions that most closely address those parts of the agenda that reflect their request to speak. Consequently, it is important when requesting to participate that you identify the agenda items on which you wish to speak.

The meeting will be adjourned after as many sessions as necessary to enable all those who have requested to speak to be heard. If there are any additional matters to be dealt with or submissions take a considerable amount of time the ExA may change the order of the agenda items and may introduce breaks in the proceedings.

If necessary, the project page of the NI website will be updated closer to the date of the meeting with a more detailed agenda which will confirm how many sessions will be held. Consequently, at this stage, prospective participants are advised to keep the whole day available.

Adjournment

The purpose of the adjournment is to enable all IPs who do not participate in the virtual event to use either the livestream, or the recording of the virtual event which will be published on the project page of the NI website, to listen to all matters raised in the Preliminary Meeting: Part 1. They can then submit any comments in writing by **Procedural Deadline B on Wednesday 7 April 2021**.

If, following Preliminary Meeting: Part 1, you wish to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting: Part 2 you must request to do so in writing by **Procedural Deadline B**.

Requests to be heard at the Preliminary Meeting: Part 2 will need to demonstrate that the matter to be addressed is:

- new (i.e. it was not raised in Part 1, or is a new point about a matter that was raised in Part 1, and it could not be made in Part 1 because the requesting party did not speak); or
- is the subject of an outstanding disagreement (i.e. parties have requested different procedural approaches on which the ExA needs to adjudicate as part of any Procedural Decision).

It is important to note that any submissions received by Procedural Deadline B are considered to be a substantive contribution to the Preliminary Meeting, carrying equal weight to any oral submissions made in Parts 1 or 2.

Preliminary Meeting: Part 2 (Agenda Items 8 to 11) and closure of the meeting

The Examining Authority will carefully consider all oral submissions made in Part 1 and all written submissions and requests to be heard at the Preliminary Meeting Part 2 made by Procedural Deadline B. If required, the Preliminary Meeting will then resume (Part 2) to enable the Examining Authority to consider all the oral and written submissions before any related Procedural Decisions are made. The Preliminary Meeting will close at the end of Preliminary Meeting: Part 2.

Please make sure that you read the following documents before attending the Preliminary Meeting:

- **The National Infrastructure Planning Privacy Notice:**
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2018/05/ni-privacy-statement.pdf>
- **Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events:**
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/>

* **Wednesday 24 March 2021** has been reserved to use for Preliminary Meeting Part 1 in the event of any technical difficulties

¹ Pre-registered parties - Please follow the joining instructions for the virtual event carefully and connect into the Preliminary Meeting in good time. In common with physical Preliminary Meetings, the event will start at 10.00am irrespective of any late arrivals, for whom access may not be possible

Introduction to the Preliminary Meeting

Background

The Preliminary Meeting (PM) for The Sizewell C Project will take place virtually using Microsoft Teams, but the format, content and procedure will be very similar to the physical face-to-face PMs that have been held for other National Infrastructure Project Examinations.

The Examining Authority (ExA) is conscious of videoconferencing fatigue and will aim to keep the proceedings focussed and as efficient as possible. This Annex provides advance access to information that would usually be included in the ExA's introductory remarks following the opening of the PM. Please read this carefully. The ExA will only present a summary of the key points set out here at the PM in order to ensure that the time available for participants to speak is maximised.

The Examining Authority

The five Panel Members of the ExA: Wendy McKay (Lead Panel Member); David Brock; Helen Cassini; Neil Humphrey and Edwin Maund, who have been appointed by the Secretary of State, will introduce themselves at the start of the PM. The ExA's appointment letter can be found in the Examination Library under reference [[PD-004](#)].

The Case Team

The ExA will be supported by the Planning Inspectorate Case Team for this application: Michele Gregory (Case Manager) and Lily Robbins; Jake Stephens and Georgiana Hannigan (Case Officers). During the Arrangements Conferences a member of the Case Team will welcome and admit participants into the virtual PM, and will be available to answer questions by email, or if necessary by phone, before and after the PM. The contact email address is:

sizewellc@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting

The PM is being held to discuss the arrangements for the Examination of the application for Development Consent for The Sizewell C Project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), and which will generally be referred to in the PM and Examination as the 'Proposed Development' or 'the Scheme'. The application has been made by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited, which will be referred to as 'the Applicant'.

You will find information about the application and, in due course, documents produced for the Examination on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website ('NI website'). This has a dedicated landing page for the project with links to Examination procedure, the Examination Timetable, Relevant Representations and Examination documents. The relevant NI website landing page is:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/the-sizewell-c-project/?ipcsection=overview>

The main purpose of the PM is to discuss the arrangements for the Examination of the application. It focuses on the process only, and it will not be looking at the substance of the proposal: questions, discussions and representations about the merits or disadvantages of the Proposed Development are for the Examination itself which will begin the day after the close of the PM.

The PM will be your opportunity to influence the process that we intend to follow, and you should read the Rule 6 letter and all accompanying Annexes thoroughly beforehand. The agenda for the PM is attached to the Rule 6 letter at **Annex A**. It is important to have the letter and the agenda in front of you and to refer to them during the course of the PM. If you are not experienced with videoconferencing and using multiple documents on screen, you may wish to print these in advance of the PM for reference.

Government guidance and policy

The application is a NSIP under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) regime as a consequence of falling within the categories in section 14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of an onshore generating station in England with a capacity of more than 50MW and therefore satisfies sections 14 and 15 of the PA2008; including subsections 14(1)(a) and 15(2).

The designated National Policy Statements (NPS) EN-1 and EN-6 provide the framework for development consent decisions for new nuclear power stations capable of deployment by the end of 2025. Sizewell C was one of the sites listed in NPS EN-6 as potentially suitable for a new nuclear power station in England and Wales by the end of 2025. It is no longer possible for the deployment of Sizewell C to take place by the end of 2025.

The [2017 Written Ministerial Statement on Energy Infrastructure](#) (2017 WMS) confirms that for projects due to deploy after 2025, including the Sizewell C project, EN-6 is not considered to have effect under section 104 PA2008. This means that section 105 PA2008 would apply to the decision on whether or not to grant development consent for the project.

The 2017 WMS also states: *"...in deciding whether or not to grant development consent to such a project, the Secretary of State would be required, under section 105(2)(c) of the Act, to have regard to the content of EN-1 and EN-6, unless they have been suspended or revoked. In respect of matters where there is no relevant change of circumstances it is likely that significant weight would be given to the policy in EN-1 and EN-6"*.

Section 105(2) PA2008 requires the Secretary of State (SoS) in deciding the application to have regard to any Local Impact Report (LIR) submitted before the relevant deadline; any prescribed matters and any other matters which the SoS thinks are both important and relevant to the decision.

In summary, the PM will establish the procedures and timetable for the Examination of the Proposed Development. It will set a framework for the ExA to

enable the SoS to consider and decide the application. In doing so, the ExA will have regard to:

- The positions and representations of all Interested Parties (IPs);
- any LIR prepared and provided by relevant local authorities;
- other prescribed matters; and
- any other matters that appear to be both relevant and important to the SoS's decision.

Preliminary Meeting invitees

The Applicant is invited to the PM and is generally given the opportunity to reply to any representations made, either orally at the time or in writing during the adjournment of the meeting.

Everyone who has made a valid Relevant Representation has been registered as an IP and has been sent a copy of the Rule 6 letter. Each IP is entitled to participate in this Examination.

Each person or organisation with an interest in land or rights that are affected by a Compulsory Acquisition request in this application is an Affected Person (AP). In addition to a general entitlement to involvement in the Examination, APs have a right to be heard in relation to any objection about the effects of Compulsory Acquisition on their interests in land, and a right to be notified of any Compulsory Acquisition Hearing. Affected Persons are IPs, whether or not they have made a valid Relevant Representation.

Certain bodies are 'Prescribed Consultees' or Statutory Parties. They are bodies that can elect to become IPs without having made a valid Relevant Representation.

The ExA has the power to involve people who are not IPs in the Examination as though they are IPs, including by inviting them to the PM as Other Persons. However, this is only done in exceptional circumstances, for example if it was clear that the application would materially affect a person who is not automatically, or eligible to elect to become, an IP. Further information specific to potential Other Persons that may be affected by the Applicant's material change request, if accepted, is set out below.

The Applicant's material change request

The Applicant submitted its formal material change request for each of the 15 proposed changes to the original application to be accepted on 11 January 2021. The Applicant's cover letter provides an overview of the proposed changes at Table 1 [[AS-105](#)]. The information and documentation submitted in support of the material change request has been published on the project page of the NI website [[AS-105 to 281](#)].

The material change request has been included as an agenda item for the PM. The consideration of the requested changes at the PM will be limited to a discussion of the materiality of the proposed changes and the examination of the proposed changes, if accepted. That is to say:

1. whether the acceptance of the change requests, separately or in combination, would mean that the development now being proposed is not in substance that which was originally applied for; and
2. how a changed application, if accepted, might be examined.

That discussion will not consider the merits or otherwise of the various change request proposals. There will be an opportunity for such discussions during the course of the Examination should the change request be accepted. The Applicant's cover letter [[AS-105](#)] to its formal material change request notes that certain changes include 'additional land' which is proposed to be the subject of Compulsory Acquisition and which was not identified in the Book of Reference submitted with the application. If the proposed changes are accepted by the ExA, the additional Affected Persons will be notified in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 7 and 8 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition Regulations (2010) (the CA Regulations) and invited to make representations in respect of the proposed changes.

At this stage, the ExA proposes to invite those potential Affected Persons to the Preliminary Meeting as 'Other Persons', to enable them to take part, should they wish to do so, in the discussion about the materiality of the proposed changes and how a changed application, if accepted, might be examined. Likewise, the ExA has invited certain potential Statutory Parties, not originally consulted, as 'Other Persons' so that they may also contribute on that topic, if desired.

Conduct of the Preliminary Meeting

In the light of the Government Guidance to control the COVID-19 outbreak and the ongoing restrictions on travel and gatherings the Planning Inspectorate has continued with virtual events in order to keep staff and customers safe. A large number of virtual events have now been held across a number of NSIPs and the recordings of these are available to view on the relevant project pages of the NI website. We hope to be able to run physical events again in the future, once circumstances allow us to do this safely.

In recognition of the fatigue associated with on-screen communication during virtual events, we may provide a short break(s) during the PM.

All NSIP Examination events, whether virtual or physical are recorded. The recording of the PM will be made available on the project page of the NI website as soon as practicable following each part of the PM. The recording allows any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed at the PM. It is therefore important to note that anyone speaking at the PM will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, **each time they speak** to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the event is clear who was speaking. A written note of the PM will be produced following the closure of the PM (at the conclusion of Part 2).

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our [Privacy Notice](#) and Annex H for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making

public any information which they would otherwise wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the Case Team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain.

The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and retain them for a period of five years from the SoS's decision on the Development Consent Order (DCO). If you actively participate in the PM, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording will be made available in the public domain.

Following the ExA's introductions the meeting will be conducted in accordance with the agenda. If you prefer not to have your image recorded, you can switch off your camera at any point.

The Examination Process

The examination of NSIPs follows different processes to those, for example, of a Public Inquiry into a planning appeal following the refusal of planning permission. The main differences are that the examination of NSIPs is primarily a written process and hearings take on an inquisitorial approach as opposed to an adversarial one.

This means that the ExA will probe, test and assess the evidence primarily using written questions. While some hearings are held to provide supplementary evidence, questions to the Applicant or to witnesses will come from the ExA. Questioning or cross-examination of witnesses by other parties will not generally be allowed.

In terms of opportunities to provide evidence in writing, the draft Examination Timetable makes provision for the following written processes:

- Local authorities can submit LIRs if they wish. Whilst these are voluntary, the PA2008 provides that if they are provided, they must be considered by the SoS in reaching a decision. Consequently LIRs are a very important method for local authorities to communicate issues of concern to the ExA, the SoS and their residents.
- IPs can make Written Representations (WRs) and comment on WRs made by other parties.
- IPs can respond to the ExA's written questions (ExQs) and comment on responses to these written questions provided by others.
- IPs may be asked to contribute to the making of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) if it appears that there are matters on which they and the Applicant agree, and if it would be useful for this to be clarified. SoCGs most usefully extend to catalogue matters that are not agreed or are outstanding.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a series of numbered Deadlines for receipt of written submissions. Timely submissions received by the relevant

deadline and that address its purpose will be accepted. **Documents received after the relevant deadline are only accepted at the discretion of the ExA and may not be accepted to ensure fairness to all parties.** Circumstances where documents are submitted late without good reason, causing inconvenience or delay to other parties can amount to unreasonable behaviour.

These written processes will be the principal means used by the ExA to gather information, evidence and views about the application. However, the Examination will only be effective if all parties resolve to give timely, full, frank, clear and evidenced answers to every question that is relevant to their interests and to engage fully with any other related processes such as the completion of WRs and SoCGs.

There is no merit in withholding or delaying information, or in failing to co-operate, and, should it occur, any unreasonable behaviour that caused another party to incur wasted expenditure could lead to an award of costs against the offending party.

The ExA has discretion to make amendments to the Examination Timetable for the wider benefit of the Examination. If possible, events will be arranged for times when all relevant parties are available, but the ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination by the end of the six-month period beginning with the day after the close of the PM. This requirement is set by legislation, and while the ExA will try to rearrange event dates to accommodate all relevant parties, in practice there will be limited scope to alter dates set out in the draft Examination Timetable.

The statutory time limit for the Examination means that everyone must strive for a 'right first time' approach to matters set out in writing. Where there are matters that still need to be discussed and agreed between the Applicant and IPs, it will be very helpful to the ExA if these could be progressed as early as possible.

Hearings

The draft Examination Timetable includes provision for Hearings, at which the ExA takes oral evidence from the various parties.

Any registered IP may request an **Open Floor Hearing (OFH)** to make oral representations about the application if they believe this to be preferable to restricting their representation to the written form; though both carry equal weight. Oral submissions should be based on representations previously made in writing, but they should not simply repeat matters previously covered in the written submission. Rather, they should focus on specific detail and explanation to help inform the ExA. There should be no new or unexpected material in oral representations. A written summary note with any supporting evidence or references will be requested of each speaker following the hearing.

As with all Examination events, OFHs are subject to the powers of control of the ExA, as set out in the PA2008 and supporting legislation. Participants must register in advance by the deadline shown in the Examination Timetable and in accordance with the instructions. It is common practice for the ExA to set a time

limit for each speaker and speakers with common points are asked to come together to nominate a spokesperson or representative speakers to cover specific topics, so as to avoid repetition. Speakers representing public authorities, community and membership organisations or multiple IPs are normally provided with an additional time allowance, recognising their representative role.

The Applicant's draft DCO provides for the Compulsory Acquisition of land and rights, and the Temporary Possession of land. Affected Persons (AP) (ie those whose land or rights over land are affected) have a right to request and be heard at a **Compulsory Acquisition Hearing** (CAH). If one or more APs request to be heard then a CAH must be held. Provisional dates for CAHs are included in the draft Examination Timetable along with deadlines by which requests to be heard must be submitted.

The ExA has the discretion to hold **Issue Specific Hearings** (ISHs) if it would aid in the Examination and there is a specific reason this would be more helpful than reliance on written evidence only. The lack of an ISH on one or more topics does not suggest that that topic is less important than others which are subject to a hearing. Rather, it is an indication that the ExA is satisfied that the issues can be fully considered through written submissions and responses to its written questions and that each party has had a fair opportunity to put its case.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a number of reservations for ISHs and IPs may make suggestions for topics in their written submissions or in oral representations to the PM.

It may be necessary for the ExA to hold multiple ISHs on the draft DCO. This is normal practice, and they are held on a without prejudice basis. Parties can suggest modifications and amendments to the draft DCO provided with the Proposed Development application by the Applicant, without prejudicing their overall position on the application.

Holding such hearings does not imply that the ExA has reached any judgements on the merits of the application. Whatever our ultimate recommendation is, we must make sure that the draft DCO is fit for purpose if the SoS decides to grant consent, as any consent will be subject to Requirements (i.e. conditions) set out in the DCO.

At hearings it will not normally be necessary for parties to make long and detailed submissions that require (for example) PowerPoint presentations. Any supporting detail/information can be provided in writing before or after the event by the relevant Deadline.

The draft Examination Timetable includes a deadline (**Deadline 1 on 12 May 2021**) for participants to notify the ExA that they wish to speak at an OFH or a CAH and we request that any such notification is submitted separately from any other written submissions.

Site inspections

As part of the Examination process the ExA may undertake site inspections. These can be either unaccompanied or accompanied, though all would be subject to any Government restrictions relating to COVID-19 in force at the time.

The purpose of these is for the ExA to see features of the proposals within the context of the evidence put forward. Notes of Unaccompanied Site Inspections (USIs) are published on the project webpage on the NI website.

Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI) will only be necessary to view land to which there is no public right of access, or with no clear view from nearby locations with open public access. **The purpose of ASIs is familiarisation only and no discussion of the merits of the Proposed Development will be entertained during an ASI.**

The draft Examination Timetable includes a deadline (**Deadline 1 on 12 May 2021**) for IPs to make submissions suggesting sites and locations that the ExA should visit. These will be used to inform further USIs as well as possible ASIs. It should be noted that public health restrictions may limit the scope for ASIs and, if these have not lifted by the end of the Examination, the ExA may decide that holding USIs to relevant nominated locations, supported by the submission of additional written, photographic, video or even drone material would be preferable to not visiting sites or holding ASIs in circumstances which could make them difficult and unduly time-consuming to conduct.

Initial Assessment of Principal Issues

This is the Initial Assessment of the Principal Issues prepared under section 88(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). This initial assessment has had regard to consideration by the Examining Authority (ExA) of the application documents and of Relevant Representations received in respect of the application.

It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of all relevant matters. The ExA will have regard to all important and relevant matters during the Examination and when it writes its Recommendation Report to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy after the Examination has concluded.

The order of the issues listed is alphabetic and does not imply any order of prioritisation or importance.

The policy and consenting requirements and documents associated with the PA2008 are an integral part of the Examination and are therefore not set out as separate Principal Issues.

It should be noted that a number of the Principal Issues set out below have an interrelationship and overlap and these will be reflected in the Examination.

It should also be noted that:

- whilst the effects of the proposal on the achievement of sustainable development; and
- whilst the effects of the proposal in relation to human rights and equalities duties are not listed as specific Principle Issues;

the ExA will conduct all aspects of the Examination with these objectives in mind.

Agriculture and soils – to include:

- Effects of the proposal on agricultural land and farming operations.
- Soil quality.

Air Quality – to include:

- Air Quality impact baseline assessment methodology.
- Effects on air quality arising from dust and particulates during the construction phase including through construction activities, emissions from construction traffic and equipment/plant and changes in traffic flows.

- Effects on air quality arising from dust and particulates during the operational phase including through changes in vehicular activity and changes in distances between sources of emissions and air quality sensitive receptors.
- Proposed mitigation, monitoring and control measures for air quality, dust suppression, control and use of equipment/plant and construction traffic management and how such matters would be secured and enforced including by the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Code of Construction Practice (CoCP).
- Effects on air quality arising from dust and particulates during the decommissioning of the Proposed Development including through construction activities, emissions from construction traffic and equipment/plant and changes in traffic flows.
- Adequacy of the environmental measures incorporated into the design and mitigation proposal and whether all reasonable steps have been taken and would be taken to minimise any detrimental impact on amenity from emissions.

Alternatives – to include:

- The Environment Statement (ES) approach to alternatives including consideration of various routes, locations, strategies and design development options for the project.
- Whether the proposed development would comply with all specific legal and policy requirements in relation to the consideration of alternatives including any relevant National Policy Statements (NPSs), the Habitats Regulations and the Water Framework Directive (WFD)?

Amenity and recreation – to include:

- Delivery and timing of provision of sports pitch at Leiston.
- Whether the plans are appropriate to minimise disruption to users of the Public Right of Way (PRoW) network and minimise impacts on local and tourism community.
- Residential amenity.
- Recreational opportunities.

Biodiversity and ecology, terrestrial and marine – to include:

- Effects on the Minsmere – Walberswick designated sites, other European Sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).
- Appropriate Assessment (HRA), including Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Importance, compensatory measures, selection of Natura 2000 sites, and alternatives for the Minsmere-Walberswick Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar sites in respect of effects on breeding marsh harrier population during construction. Appropriate assessment in respect of coastal, freshwater and terrestrial habitats, ornithology, marine mammals and migratory fish.
- Eels.
- Bio-diversity net gain, including the relevance of the Environment Bill.

- The sum of all effects, and whether and how they will be mitigated/compensated.
- The weight to be given to local interests in relation to Suffolk priority habitats and species.
- Monitoring and further steps.
- Design and options for the SSSI crossing.
- Effects of the crossing and loss of watercourses.
- Effects of the cut-off wall.

Climate change and resilience – to include:

- Whether the proposed adaptation measures would ensure that the development would be sufficiently resilient against the possible impacts of climate change?
- Whether the proposed adaptation measures would give rise to any additional adverse impacts such as consequential impacts on coastal change?
- Whether there are features of the design of the proposed development critical to its operation which might be seriously affected by more radical changes to the climate beyond that projected in the latest set of UK climate projections, taking account of the latest credible scientific evidence on, for example, sea level rise?
- Carbon footprint.

Compulsory acquisition – to include:

- Independently from the question of whether development consent should be granted, whether the full extent of the land, rights and powers that are sought to be compulsorily acquired are required for or to facilitate or are incidental to the proposed development¹.
- Whether there is a compelling case in the public interest² for the compulsory acquisition of the land, rights and powers that are sought by the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO).
- Whether all reasonable alternatives to compulsory acquisition have been explored³.
- Whether adequate funding is likely to be available to enable the promoter to carry out the compulsory acquisition within the statutory period including provision for the resource implications of a possible blight notice.
- Whether the purposes stated for the acquisition are legitimate and sufficient to justify the inevitable interference with the human rights of those affected.
- Accuracy of the Book of Reference.
- The acquisition of any statutory undertakers' land or rights over such land and the detriment that may be caused to the carrying on of the undertaking in question⁴.

¹ See s122(2) of the Planning Act 2008

² In terms of s122(3) of the Planning Act 2008

³ See s123 of the Planning Act 2008

⁴ See s127 of the Planning Act 2008

- Adequacy of any Protective Provisions set out in the dDCO and the need for any other Protective Provisions to safeguard relevant interests.
- Crown land.

Cumulative impact – to include:

- The effects of the proposed development on other constructed and proposed major projects nearby.
- The effects of other major projects on the proposed development.
- Cumulative and in-combination effects with other major projects and proposals.

Draft Development Consent Order – to include:

- The s.106 agreement and other obligations and agreements.
- The harbour, harbour powers and the harbour authority.
- The deemed marine licence (DML).
- Regulatory approvals and environmental permits.
- Adequacy of the dDCO Requirements, and associated provisions and documents, their status and enforceability to secure the proposed mitigation (primary, secondary and tertiary) and monitoring.
- Whether any additional Requirements are necessary.
- Whether the flexibility that the scheme currently provides in terms of detailed design can be justified and represents a reasonable approach.
- The proposed procedures for consultation on and the discharge of Requirements, and for approvals, consents and appeals, including arbitration.
- The need for and means of securing funding for any necessary monitoring and enforcement of the dDCO Requirements.
- The explanatory memorandum.

Flood risk, ground water, surface water – to include:

- Effectiveness of Flood Risk Assessments (FRA) for the main development site and all other associated development sites in considering the effects of coastal, fluvial, surface water, groundwater, sewers and other sources of flooding, taking into account climate change.
- Effects on groundwater and surface water, including Source Protection Zones, water dependent resources and receptors from the construction and operational phases of the proposed development.
- Effectiveness of mitigation measures and monitoring.
- Compliance with the WFD.

Health and wellbeing – to include:

- Potential adverse effects on human health and the living conditions of local residents during construction and operation including those arising from air quality, noise and vibration, visual impact and pollution.

- Potential beneficial effects on human health and the living conditions of local residents during construction and operation.
- The overall impact upon human health and the living conditions of local residents taking into account the cumulative effects of the proposed development itself and with other development.
- Whether there is a need for on-going monitoring of any potential adverse health effects?

Historic environment (terrestrial and marine) – to include:

- Effects on the terrestrial heritage assets and their visual and functional settings, and on buried and marine archaeology.
- Future archaeological investigation, monitoring and supervision.

Landscape impact, visual effects and design – to include:

- Suitability of study areas and viewpoints used in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA).
- Interpretation of provided photographs and montages.
- Design of the proposal.
- Impact on landscape and visual amenity, including the settings of protected landscapes.
- The effects of temporary and permanent lighting on the landscape and visual amenity.
- Effects on amenity and views from the PRow network.
- Effectiveness of mitigation.
- Cumulative effects.

Marine ecology and fisheries, marine water quality and sediment, marine navigation – to include:

- In addition to the issues listed under biodiversity and ecology, above:
 - Restrictions and effects on navigation.
 - Marine ornithology.
 - The DML.

Noise and vibration – to include:

- Noise and vibration baseline noise survey methodologies.
- Noise and vibration from traffic, rail and other operations generated through construction, maintenance and decommissioning.
- Construction, operational and decommissioning noise and vibration effects on residents, businesses and wildlife.
- Maximum noise levels and exposures and working hours. Establishing the maxima, and monitoring and enforcement throughout the development.
- Proposed monitoring and mitigation measures, including noise and vibration reduction measures, working hours, techniques and practices and the means whereby this would be secured by the dDCO and CoCP.

Policy and need – to include:

- The need for the proposed development including in terms of national considerations and the local economy.
- In particular, the current role and status of NPSs EN-1 and EN-6 including whether there has been any relevant change of circumstances that would call into question whether the assessment of need for sites set out in the NPSs remains up to date?
- Whether site circumstances have changed at Sizewell to the extent that the NPS policies for Sizewell C can no longer be regarded as being up to date including changes to the nominated site area?

Radiological considerations – to include:

- Adequacy of provision of facilities for the safe storage of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) and spent fuel rods. Whether contingency is adequate?
- Longer term plans for this storage and how this would be facilitated and maintained.

Socio-economic – to include:

- Baseline assessment methodology and the socio-economic evaluation.
- Effects of incoming workers on the receiving communities (including law and order considerations, schooling and impact on community facilities).
- Effects on health on the receiving communities and on the incoming workforce.
- Effects on accommodation.
- Effects in relation to temporary on-site accommodation.
- Effects on local businesses including tourism and the local supply chain.
- Effects on the labour market.

Traffic and Transport – to include:

- Suitability of the Transport Strategy, including consideration of movement of people and freight by mode of travel.
- Suitability of proposed associated development of park and ride sites, bypasses, junction improvements, rail extensions and beach landing facility.
- Suitability of the Transport Assessment and modelling approaches.
- Effects on local road network and roads, including access, congestion, road safety and disruption.
- Effects on emergency services.
- Effects on the Strategic Road Network (SRN).
- Effects on PRow and Non-Motorised User (NMU) routes.
- Effectiveness of mitigation and control measures, monitoring and enforcement.
- Consideration of effects of other developments.

Waste (conventional) and material resource – to include:

- Effectiveness of Conventional Waste Management Strategy.
- Effects on the supply of construction materials.

- Effects on the supply of potable and non-potable water during construction.

Draft Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at Hearings.

Item	Matters	Due Dates
	<p>Procedural Deadline A</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to the Rule 6 Letter • Written submissions on Examination procedure and timetable • Requests to be heard orally at Preliminary Meeting Part 1 	<p>Wednesday 10 March 2021</p>
	<p>Preliminary Meeting Part 1</p>	<p>Tuesday 23 March 2021</p>
	<p>Date reserved for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Meeting Part 1 (if required) 	<p>Wednesday 24 March 2021</p>
	<p>Procedural Deadline B</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written submissions on Examination procedure and timetable in response to matters raised orally at Preliminary Meeting Part 1 • Requests to be heard orally at Preliminary Meeting Part 2 • Draft section 106 Agreement(s) (s.106), s.106 Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Applicant's draft itinerary for Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI)¹ 	<p>Wednesday 7 April 2021</p>
	<p>Preliminary Meeting Part 2 (if required)</p>	<p>Wednesday 14 April 2021</p>
	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination Timetable <p>Publication by the ExA of:</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 April 2021</p>

¹ Please note: an ASI can only go ahead if Government guidance on COVID-19 at that time permits.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExA's Written Questions (ExQ1) 	
	<p>Deadline 1 (D1)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on any updated application documents • Comments on Relevant Representations (RRs) • Summaries of all RRs exceeding 1500 words • Comments on Applicant's draft itinerary for ASI and suggested locations for site inspections (Accompanied or Unaccompanied), including justification, for consideration by the ExA • Notification of wish to attend ASI * • Local Impact Reports (LIR) from any local authorities • Initial Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) requested by the ExA • Statement of Commonality of SoCG • If needed, Draft section 106 Agreement(s) (s.106), s.106 Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an IP by the ExA • Notification of wish to speak at any Open Floor Hearing (OFH) * • Notification of wish to make oral representations at an Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) * • Notification from any Affected Person of wish to speak at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) * • Notification of wish to have future correspondence received electronically • Comments on any additional information/submissions received • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	<p>Wednesday 12 May 2021</p>
	<p>Open Floor Hearings (OFH)</p>	<p>Wednesday 19 May 2021 to Friday 21 May 2021</p>

* All notifications of a wish to attend or speak at an Examination Event must be submitted separately from other correspondence

	<p>Deadline 2 (D2)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case • Written Representations (WRs) • Summaries of all WRs exceeding 1500 words • Responses to the ExA's Written Questions (ExQ1) • Updated Navigation Document • Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) • Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Applicant's first revised draft of DCO • Updated DCO Signposting Document • Comments on draft s.106, accompanying draft Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Responses to comments on RRs • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D1 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	<p>Wednesday 26 May 2021</p>
	<p>Dates reserved for:</p> <p>Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI) (if COVID-19 public health restrictions allow)</p>	<p>Tuesday 8 June 2021 to Thursday 10 June 2021</p>
	<p>Deadline 3 (D3)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on WRs • Comments on LIRs • Comments on SoCG • Comments on responses to ExA's Written Questions (ExQ1) • Comments on Applicant's first revised draft DCO • If needed, revised draft s.106, accompanying draft Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Updated Navigation Document • Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) 	<p>Thursday 17 June 2021</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Updated NPS tracker • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D2 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
	Issue Specific Hearings (ISH)	From Tuesday 6 July 2021 to Friday 9 July 2021
	Issue Specific Hearings (ISH)	From Tuesday 13 July 2021 to Friday 16 July 2021
	<p>Deadline 4 (D4)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case • Any revised/updated SoCG (if any) • Applicant's revised draft DCO • Updated DCO Signposting Document • If needed, comments on revised draft s.106, accompanying draft Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Updated Navigation Document • Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) • Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Updated NPS tracker • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D3 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	Friday 23 July 2021
	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required) 	Tuesday 3 August 2021

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ExA's proposed commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO and s.106 documentation (if required) 	
	<p>Deadline 5 (D5)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case Comments on Applicant's revised draft DCO Updated Navigation Document Comments on any revised/updated SoCG Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' Updated NPS tracker Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D4 Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	<p>Friday 6 August 2021</p>
	<p>Compulsory Acquisition Hearings (CAH)</p>	<p>From Tuesday 17 August to Friday 20 August 2021</p>
	<p>Dates reserved for:</p> <p>Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI) (if COVID-19 public health restrictions allow and if required)</p> <p>Open Floor Hearings (OFH) (if required)</p> <p>Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) (if required)</p> <p>Compulsory Acquisition Hearings (ISH) (if required)</p>	<p>Tuesday 24 August 2021 to Friday 27 August 2021</p>
	<p>Deadline 6 (D6)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to the ExA's further Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required) Any revised/updated SoCG (if any) Updated Navigation Document Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) 	<p>Friday 3 September 2021</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Updated NPS tracker • Applicant's revised draft DCO • Updated DCO Signposting Document • If needed, revised draft s.106, accompanying draft Explanatory Memorandum and draft Confirmation and Compliance Document • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D5 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) • ExA's further commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO and s.106 documentation (if required) • Third Written Questions (ExQ3) (if required) 	<p>Thursday 9 September 2021</p>
	<p>Hearing Events/Accompanied Site Inspection</p> <p>Dates reserved to hold any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Floor Hearing(s) (if required) • Issue Specific Hearing(s) (if required) • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing(s) (if required) • Accompanied Site Inspections (if required) 	<p>Tuesday 14 September 2021 to Friday 17 September 2021</p>
	<p>Date reserved for issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any request for further information under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules (if required) 	<p>Monday 20 September 2021</p>
	<p>Deadline 7 (D7)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case (if required) • Comments on the RIES • Responses to the ExA's further Written Questions (ExQ3) (if required) • Comments on the ExA's proposed schedule of changes to the draft DCO (if required) • Updated Navigation Document • Comments on any revised/updated SoCG 	<p>Friday 24 September 2021</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) • Updated Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Updated SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Updated NPS tracker • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D6 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
	<p>Deadline 8 (D8)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on responses to the ExA's further Written Questions (ExQ3) (if required) • Final DCO to be submitted by the Applicant in the SI template with the SI template validation report • Final DCO Signposting Document • Final updated Book of Reference • Final SoCG • Final Statement of Commonality of SoCG • List of matters not agreed where SoCG could not be finalised • Final Navigation Document • Final Statement of Reasons (SoR) Appendix B 'Status of Negotiations with Owners of the Order Land' • Final SoR Appendix C 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' • Final NPS tracker • Final signed and dated s.106 , final s.106 Explanatory Memorandum and final Confirmation and Compliance Document • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D7 • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	<p>Wednesday 6 October 2021</p>
	<p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.</p>	<p>Thursday 14 October 2021</p>

Submission times for deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any Deadline in the timetable is 23:59 on the relevant Deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

Publication dates

All information received will be published on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as practicable after the Deadlines for submissions. An Examination Library will be kept up to date throughout the Examination and can be accessed via the 'Documents' tab on the project page. Each document will be given a unique reference. These references will be used by the ExA during the Examination:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/the-sizewell-c-project/?ipcsection=docs>

Hearing Agendas

Please note that for Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings the ExA will aim to publish a detailed draft Agenda on the project page at least five working days in advance of the Hearing date. However, the actual Agenda on the day of each Hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA.

For Open Floor Hearings Agendas will not be published unless, in consideration of the number of participants notified to the Planning Inspectorate, the ExA decides that establishing a running order will facilitate the process on the day.

Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Where an Applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and / or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.

Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)

The ExA has made the following Procedural Decisions under Section 89(3) of the PA2008:

1. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

In relation to some of the Principal Issues identified in **Annex C**, the ExA would be assisted by the preparation of SoCGs between the Applicant and certain Interested Parties. The draft Examination Timetable at **Annex D** therefore provides a deadline for submission of initial and finalised SoCG. The deadline for initial SoCG is **Deadline 1 on 12 May 2021** and the deadline for finalised SoCG is **Deadline 8 on 6 October 2021**.

The aim of a SoCG is to agree factual information and to inform the ExA and all other parties by identifying where there is agreement and where the differences lie at an early stage in the examination process. It should provide a focus and save time by identifying matters which are not in dispute or need not be the subject of further evidence. It can also usefully state where and why there may be disagreement about the interpretation and relevance of the information. The reasons for the differences and interpretation of the implications of a difference can then be expanded in the evidence. Unless otherwise stated or agreed, the SoCG should be agreed between the Applicant and the other relevant Interested Party or parties and submitted by the Applicant.

The topics which the ExA would wish to see included in these SoCG are set out below.

Anglian Water Services Limited , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Anglian Water Services Limited in their relevant representation [RR-0073]; • Foul and surface water drainage strategy; • Impact on foul and surface water sewers; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Essex and Suffolk Water , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water supply and quality during construction and operation • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • The effect on existing apparatus and infrastructure, including any mitigation required to ensure adequate capacity; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board , to include but not be limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the Drainage Board in their relevant representation [RR-0345]; • Impacts on, and diversions of, watercourses; • Hydrological impacts and surface water discharge; • Drainage design; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding.
<p>The Environment Agency, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the Agency in their relevant representation [RR-0373]; • In particular this should include the SSSI crossing, the LVSE cooling water intakes, the Eel Regulations and where in the draft Development Consent Order or draft s.106 agreement mitigation measures agreed with the Agency are secured; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Water environment effects, including flood risk and effects on flood alleviation and storage schemes, watercourses and waterbodies, and foul and surface water drainage matters, including ensuring all assessments have been made using the most up to date data available; • The Applicant's Flood Risk Assessment, with particular reference to climate change allowances and any flood emergency response and contingency plan; • Compliance with the Water Framework Directive; • Site Water Supply Strategy; • Biodiversity; • Land contamination and groundwater, including source protection zones and groundwater dependent ecosystems; • Waste management; • Environmental permits, consents, discharge consents and licences; • Mitigation, risk management and enhancement measures, including Construction Environmental Management Plan /Code of Construction Practice; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Highways England, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address the issues raised by Highways England in their relevant representation [RR-0468]; • Impact on the Strategic Road Network (SRN); • Freight management strategy; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding.
<p>Historic England, to include but not be limited to:</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Historic England in their relevant representation [RR-0473]; • Effects on heritage assets and their setting including designated and undesignated archaeological assets; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Natural England (NE), to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all of the matters raised in NE's relevant representation [RR-0878]; • It should also clarify whether the matters raised by NE in Appendices III and IV are ones which must be resolved to the satisfaction of NE if a Development Consent Order is to be granted. For those where NE advises that they must, the legal and policy basis for that should be set out. Where NE and the Applicant disagree, their respective positions should be explained clearly; • Whether NE can at the date of the SoCG advise the Secretary of State that the Development Consent Order can be granted; • Compliance with ss.40 and 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and s.28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 • The SoCG should include a comprehensive and agreed list of all flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features, living organisms and physical habitats and any other matters to which s.40 or s.41 of NERC 2006 or s.28G WCA 1981 apply and an agreed statement of the steps the Secretary of State should take to comply with those provisions (including the United Nations Environmental Programme Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992); • To the extent not dealt with under the items above the SoCG should also address • Whether the compensatory habitats proposed for the marsh harrier and fen meadow are adequate and whether they will be successful, including whether or not the site at Westleton (or any other additional sites) are necessary; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Ecology, habitats and nature conservation including issues related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant's Habitats Regulation Assessment report and effects on European sites and features; • The effect on protected species and habitats; • Mitigation measures and enhancements, including likely effectiveness of mitigation, monitoring procedures, how mitigation will be secured within the Development Consent Order and s.106 agreement and the content of the Construction Environmental Management Plan/Code of Construction Practice; • Landscape and Visual impacts, with specific focus on the effects on protected landscapes; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding

National Grid Electricity Transmissions PLC (NGET), to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by NGET in their relevant representation [RR-0874]; • Draft Development Consent Order and Protective Provisions; • Effect on and protection of NGET's existing apparatus to be retained; • The delivery by NGET of the infrastructure associated with the application; • Any other connection issues; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Cadent Gas Ltd, to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Cadent Gas Ltd in their relevant representation [RR-0168]; • Draft Development Consent Order and Protective Provisions; • Effect on existing apparatus; • Any connection issues; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Network Rail, to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Network Rail in their relevant representation [RR-0006]; • Draft Development Consent Order, Protective Provisions and a response to the relevant representation regarding Compulsory Acquisition; • The effect on existing railway infrastructure and services; • The safety of level crossings, including assessment of issues of severance for emergency services; • Availability, number and timing of rail freight paths to and from the site; • Physical or operational constraints on length/type of train that could be operated; • Consideration of deliverability of the Applicant's proposed rail strategy for the construction of the development • Consideration of additional loop between Melton and Wickham Market, or dualling of the line between Woodbridge and Saxmundham; • Noise mitigation for rail transport; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Royal Mail, to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Development Consent Order, protective Provisions • Effect on performance of Royal Mail's obligations as a Universal Service Provider;

- A summary of matters agreed; and
- A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding

East Suffolk Council (ESC) and Suffolk County Council (SCC): the ExA note that ESC and SCC have joined forces for administrative reasons. They have also submitted separate relevant representations. The ExA would be content with a tripartite SoCG (Applicant / SCC / ESC) or with separate SoCGs. If a tripartite SoCG is submitted, it must indicate clearly which authority is agreeing what common ground. If a statement is made by say SCC and the Applicant, it will be assumed that ESC in that case does not disagree, unless their dissent is noted. It may also be helpful for the fields of responsibility for each authority to be set out (e.g. Highways – SCC; waste collection – ESC).

This SoCG should include but not be limited to:

- The SoCG should address all the issues raised by East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council in their relevant representations [[RR-0342](#)] and [[RR-1174](#)];
- Planning policy;
- The need and principle of the Proposed Development and its associated development sites and Examination of Alternatives;
- Ecology and Biodiversity, including the submissions made by SCC in [[RR-1174](#)] on Impacts on the Natural Environment.;
- Climate Change;
- Construction and operational effects on people and communities;
- Cumulative impacts;
- Emergency Planning;
- Water Resources, drainage and flood risk;
- Transport strategy, including the freight management strategy;
- Transport impacts and mitigations for all modes of travel on both the highway and public right of way networks;
- Effectiveness of controls including, but not limited to, the Construction Worker Travel Plan, the Construction Traffic Management Plan and the Traffic Incident Management Plan
- Historic Environment including the effects on heritage assets and archaeological considerations;
- Landscape and visual impacts, with specific focus on the effects on protected landscapes;
- Noise, air quality and disturbance during construction and operation including methods of assessment, baseline figures within the ES and setting of LOAELS and SOAELS;
- Appropriate measures for monitoring and mitigation during and post construction;
- Socio economic effects including effects on tourism;
- Construction Environmental Management Plan/Code of Construction Practice;
- Accommodation strategy and management of accommodation;
- Recreational and amenity impacts;
- Draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and Protective Provisions;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to ecology ESC state at para 1.58 of their [RR-0342] that the RR is based on a rapid review. The SoCG should deal with all ecological issues in dispute between them (including for example project wide terrestrial ecology effects highlighted at paras 2.238, 2.269, 2.290) and should be updated in accordance with this Procedural Direction • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the ONR in their relevant representation [RR-0911]; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Permits, consents and licences; • Emergency Planning; • The management and storage of spent fuel and radioactive waste, including, high level waste, intermediate level waste and low level waste; • Consideration of climate change and flood risk for operational safety and future storage of radioactive material; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group Ltd in their relevant representation [RR-0500]; • Draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Affect on the Highway Network; • Affect on the delivery of services; • Health effects from construction and operation; • Adequacy of health provision for construction workers and existing residents; • Emergency planning; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>East of England Ambulance Service, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by East of England Ambulance Service in their relevant representation [RR-0675]; • Draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Effect on the delivery of services; • Emergency planning; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding

Suffolk Constabulary , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Suffolk Constabulary in their relevant representation [RR-1140]; • Draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Effect on the Highway Network; • Effect on the delivery of services; • Emergency Planning; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Suffolk Fire and Rescue in their relevant representation [RR-1174]; • Draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Effect on the delivery of services; • Emergency Planning; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Suffolk Preservation Society , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the Suffolk Preservation Society in their relevant representation [RR-1178]; • Effects on statutory purpose of AONB; • Landscape and visual impacts; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Marine Management Organisation (MMO) , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all issues raised by the MMO in their relevant representation [RR-0744]; • In particular these include: the Development Consent Order; the Deemed Marine Licence; the Harbour powers provisions of the draft Development Consent Order; all matters where the MMO has said in its RR or WR that further information is necessary or desirable, could be included (e.g. at para 5.6.1 of the MMO's RR – a report by Walmsley “could” be included;) or that the matter is unclear (such as para 5.4.2.22 of the MMO's RR) - (if such a matter is not dealt with in the SoCG the ExA will assume that the MMO is satisfied that the information is not needed); alleged inconsistencies (e.g. at para 5.7.1 of the MMO's RR); • Compliance with ss.40 and 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (including United Nations Environmental Programme Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992) and s.28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; • Effect of the beach landing facility/facilities; • A summary of matters agreed; and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Magnox Limited, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Magnox Limited in their relevant representation [RR-0991]; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Implications for nuclear site licence and ongoing decommissioning; • The need for and extent of the compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers sought; • The nature of the Magnox land and interests affected including Class 1 and the Class 4 powers sought; • The interaction with the Nuclear Site Licence and Sizewell A Directions; • Site co-operation; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the NDA in their relevant representation [RR-0992]; • Draft Development Consent Order and any relevant Protective Provisions; • Implications for nuclear site licence and ongoing decommissioning; • The need for and extent of the compulsory acquisition and temporary possession powers sought; • The nature of the NDA land and interests affected including Class 1 and the Class 4 powers sought; • The interaction with the Nuclear Site Licence and Sizewell A Directions; • Site co-operation; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership in their relevant representation [RR-1170]; • Effects on statutory purpose of AONB; • Landscape and visual impacts; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Pro Corda Trust/Leiston Abbey, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Pro Corda Trust/Leiston Abbey in their relevant representation [RR-0993];

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effects on heritage assets and archaeological considerations; • The effects on commercial operations; • Security issues; • Noise effects; • Educational effects; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Public Health England (PHE) , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Public Health England in their relevant representation [RR-0998] • Potential for adverse and beneficial effects on living conditions of residents during construction and operation; • Whether there is a need for ongoing monitoring of any potential adverse health effects; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
Together Against Sizewell (TASC) , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Together Against Sizewell C in their relevant representation [RR-1231]; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
RSPB , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the RSPB in their relevant representation [RR-1059]; • Whether the compensatory habitats proposed for the marsh harrier and fen meadow are adequate and whether they will be successful, including whether or not the sites at Westleton (or any other additional sites) are necessary; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
National Trust , to include but not be limited to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the National Trust in their relevant representation [RR-0877]; • The draft Development Consent Order, draft s.106 agreement and any relevant protective provisions; Landscape and Visual impacts, with specific focus on the effects on protected landscapes; • The effects on heritage assets and archaeological considerations • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
National Farmers Union (NFU) , to include but not be limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the NFU in their relevant representation [RR-0885]; • Compulsory Acquisition and Compelling Case Requirement; • The Sizewell Link Road; • Access to Land; • Habitat Mitigation; • Green Rail Route; • Construction Compound Sites; • Balance Ponds; • Creation of Public Rights of Way; • Waste and Spoil; • Private Water Supply; • Field Drainage; • Soils; • Impact on agricultural businesses; • Need for an Agricultural Liaison officer; • Flood Issues; • Dust/Irrigation; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by the Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group in their relevant representation [RR-0803]; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>East Anglia One and Two, to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by East Anglia One and Two in their relevant representations [RR-0340] and [RR-0341]; • Cumulative impact; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Stop Sizewell C (Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group), to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by Stop Sizewell C (Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group) in their relevant representation [RR-1162]; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT), to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by SWT in their relevant representation [RR-1180]; • Recognising that SWT may have resource constraints, the ExA does not require this SoCG to be updated at each deadline. A first

<p>SoCG should be submitted at Deadline 1 and a final SoCG at or before the final deadline. However, should the parties wish to submit interim SoCGs as the Examination progresses that will be acceptable;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited; to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited in their relevant representation [RR-0349]; • The compatibility of the construction and operation of Sizewell C with the operation and decommissioning of Sizewell B; • The relationship between the Sizewell C project and the use of the wider EDF Energy Estate; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding
<p>English Heritage Trust; to include but not be limited to:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCG should address all the issues raised by English Heritage in their relevant representation [RR-0371]; • Effects on heritage assets and their setting including designated and undesignated archaeological assets; • A summary of matters agreed; and • A summary statement of matters not agreed or outstanding

The SoCG should also include the following topics, where relevant:

- Methodology for Environmental Impact Assessment, including assessment of cumulative effects;
- Data collection methods;
- Baseline data;
- Data/statistical analysis, approach to modelling and presentation of results (including forecast methodologies);
- Full expression of expert judgements and assumptions;
- Identification and sensitivity of relevant features and quantification of potential impact;
- Likely effects (direct and indirect) on special interest features of sites designated or notified for any nature conservation purpose;
- Feasible and deliverable mitigation and method for securing such mitigation within the Development Consent Order.

All of the SoCGs listed above should cover the Articles and Requirements in the draft Development Consent Order. Any Interested Party seeking for an Article or Requirement to be reworded should provide in the SoCG the form of words which are being sought.

The content of SoCGs is necessary to help inform the ExA as to the need to hold any Issue Specific Hearings, and to enable the ExA and the Applicant to give notice of such hearings at least 21 days in advance of them taking place.

Whilst the initial SoCGs are required by Deadline 1, the ExA asks the parties to continue to work to resolve any outstanding differences and to submit revised versions of SoCGs at each Deadline.

2. Local Impact Reports

The ExA requests Local Impact Reports (LIRs) from the host Local Authorities and welcomes LIRs from any other relevant local authorities who may wish to submit one. All LIRs are requested to be submitted into the Examination no later than by **Deadline 1 on Wednesday 12 May 2021**.

3. Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI)

The Applicant is requested to prepare a draft itinerary for the ASI which should include relevant sites and locations referred to in the relevant representations received and any other sites and locations at which the Applicant has predicted likely significant environmental effects. The Applicant's draft ASI itinerary should be submitted to the ExA by **Deadline B on Wednesday 7 April 2021**.

The ExA requests the submission by Interested Parties of:

- Comments on the Applicant's draft ASI arrangements and itinerary; and
- Confirmation of their wish to attend an ASI and suggested locations/sites for the ExA to visit as part of an ASI, including the issues to be observed there, information on whether the site can be accessed via public land and the reason why the site has been nominated,

by **Deadline 1 on Wednesday 12 May 2021**.

The final ASI itinerary will be published at least three weeks in advance of the event taking place.

Please note: an ASI can only go ahead if Government guidance on COVID-19 at that time permits.

4. Guide to the Application (Navigation Document)

The ExA requests that, at each deadline, the Applicant provides an updated Application Document Tracker [[AS-032](#)] which provides a list of the most up-to-date documents before the Examination. A final version must be submitted at **Deadline 8 on Wednesday 6 October 2021** before the close of the Examination.

5. Low-resolution documents for possible sharing on screen at virtual events

As some Examination events will be held virtually, the ExA requests for compressed/low-resolution versions of land and works plans to be submitted by the Applicant. Several of the plans and drawings provided with the application are over 20MB in size which is likely to mean they are difficult or impossible to share in a Microsoft Teams environment.

The ExA therefore requests the Applicant to re-provide the plans and drawings in accordance with the following specification by **Deadline 2 on Wednesday 26 May 2021**. For avoidance of doubt this also includes Figures to the Environmental Statement.

- No individual drawing/set of plans to exceed an absolute maximum of 10 MB - as a guide 5 to 6 MB should be achievable;
- Pay attention to the output of plans on .pdf from, for example, CAD systems, as certain systems output these in multiple layers which load successively and thus take a long time to load - layers should be merged/switched off;
- Files should be given intelligent short names that enable the ExA and others to understand the content of the file from its filename or the beginning of its filename (ie 'Worksplans sheet 1' not 'E-may7746943_projecct_449_xbleep_large works_sheets44') - the name should be intelligible in the tab when multiple document windows are open in a browser;
- Files should be checked before submission to ensure that all relevant details can still be read when zoomed in e.g. plot numbers on land plans and labels for road, field or property names;
- Files should be given a 'screen share' test before submission, ensuring that when shared over the internet the plan distributes to multiple viewers in a timely manner, the cursor remains mobile and no unlooked for behaviours (screen freezing, pixilation, judder, etc.) are experienced by multiple users.

Low-resolution versions of plans and drawings are duplicate evidence. They are requested to assist the carrying out of virtual events only and will not form part of the Examination Library or be published on the National Infrastructure Planning website.

6. Format and numbering of documentation to be submitted to the Examination, including SoCG

It is important that documents submitted to the Examination are easy to use. In whatever way they describe other Examination Documents they must always give the reference numbers in the Examination Library (e.g. [APP-001]). See **Annex G** for further information about the Examination Library.

Where SoCGs refer to the chapters of the Environmental Statement (ES) dealing with Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology [[APP-224](#)]; Marine Water Quality and Sediments [[APP-314](#)]; and Marine Ecology and Fisheries [[APP-](#)

[317](#)], the SoCG must make the subject matter being referred to clear by stating the headings and the sequential lettering of the headings in the revised Chapters submitted by the Applicant in response to [[PD-005](#)] (that is to say [[AS-033](#)]; [[AS-034](#)]; and [[AS-035](#)]) together with the paragraph numbers. Page numbers however, electronic or otherwise, should be avoided for these particular Chapters.

Any PDF documents submitted from the date of this procedural direction onward which deal with terrestrial or marine ecology, marine navigation, marine water quality, the draft Development Consent Order or s.106 agreement which would exceed 200 electronic pages must be split into separate parts of no more than 200 pages. It would be helpful if the divisions could occur at natural breaks in the documentation, for example where the subject matter changes. The parts should be appropriately numbered.

Paragraph numbers from other parts of the ES that are referred to should also be given. In the same way, paragraph numbers of other documents referred to (such as relevant representations and any written representation) should be given.

For ease of reading, particularly electronically, where documents exceed two pages and have several parts, schedules or appendices and such like, the document should have running heads so as to identify the part of the document which the reader has open.

Revised SoCGs should be submitted as a PDF and as a Microsoft Word version (clean and with track changes).

7. Acceptance of Additional Submissions into the Examination

The ExA has made a Procedural Decision to accept Additional Submissions from the following:

- Robin Sanders [[AS-308](#)]
- Together Against Sizewell C (TASC) [[AS-309](#)]

The Examining Authority's further questions and observations following the Applicant's responses dated 4 February 2021 [[AS-293](#)] to Annex A of the Procedural Decision dated 22 January 2021 [[PD-010](#)]:

The Applicant is requested to provide responses by **Deadline 1 on 12 May 2021**

Annex A Number:	
8(1):	<p>1. Please will the Applicant expand Appendix B (The schedule of accesses) so that every access authorised by the DCO, permanent or temporary, including those to be provided under Article 19(1)(b) is listed with the plan number (and the plan's Examination Library number) and the place in the ES where it is assessed (and the Examination Library number and paragraph number).</p> <p>2. The ExA draws the Applicant's attention to an error in the Appendix B schedule in that Access A1/10 is on Sheet 5 of 28 of the Rights of Way plan and not Sheet 2 of 28 as stated.</p>
8(2)	<p>(1) Thank you. The two drawings provided as Appendix C [AS-295] are very helpful.</p> <p>(2) Thank you.</p> <p>(3) - (6) Thank you</p> <p>(7) Is the Applicant referring to Figure 3 on page 13 of [APP-163]? If so, where is the capacity of the car parking shown please?</p> <p>(8) Thank you.</p> <p>(9) The ExA remains (and is strongly) of the view that the difficulties it has experienced in locating (or not) these facilities within the ES and application documentation, leading to this string of questions, demonstrates the need for a list in the DCO of all the parking facilities, with their Work No., plan number, location, a name, number of spaces to be provided for different modes of transport and the triggers by when they are to be operational, as suggested in [PD-009]. A Requirement would secure compliance with the capacity and triggers. Such a trigger could be phase related. It should give clarity which will assist enforcement. Please will the Applicant include such a Requirement in the next draft of the DCO.</p> <p>The ExA notes that the locations of the parking shown in [AS-295] are indicative. The Applicant will appreciate that they do however need to be constrained by what has been assessed. It would assist the ExA in conducting the Examination and inform the drafting of the Requirement if the drawings in [AS-295] could be annotated with the parameters and the Examination Library</p>

	references and paragraph numbers for where they are found and tied back to the description of what has been assessed.
8(3)	Please will the Applicant confirm the upper limit assessed so that it can be stated in the DCO.
9	Tiret 2 - Thank you. The ExA will await the next draft of the DCO Tiret 3 (Kenton Hills Car Park) - Thank you and noted. Please will the Applicant ensure that the number of spaces is described in the Requirement referred to in 8(2) above. Should not the description of the improvements be more precise? Please will the Applicant deal with this in the next draft of the DCO. Tiret 4 - Thank you. The ExA will await the next draft of the DCO.
14 - 17	Thank you. The ExA will await the next draft of the DCO.
19	<i>Follow up to the Applicant's response dated 16 November 2020 [AS-006] to Annex A of the Procedural Decision dated 23 October 2020 [PD-005]:</i> The ExA would be grateful if the review of the draft DCO addressing the questions raised could be completed and the update issued by Deadline 1.
20	<i>Follow up to the Applicant's response dated 16 November 2020 [AS-006] to Annex A of the Procedural Decision dated 23 October 2020 [PD-005]:</i> The ExA would be grateful if the review of Work No.1D could be completed and the update issued by Deadline 1.
21	Noted. Looking at Works Plan Sheet 4 of 27 February 2020 Drawing No, SZ/WP/06 [APP-011], is that the roadway leading north from the road known as Sizewell Gap at the access labelled A1/12? If not please will the Applicant supply a plan capable of being incorporated into the DCO.
23	The ExA notes that the number of car parking spaces has now been omitted from Work No. 1A (cc) in revision 3 of the draft DCO [AS-143]. Surely they should be reinstated and the actual number rather than "up to 15" as stated in Work No.1 (bb) of revision 2 of the draft DCO [AS-055] be recorded. Please deal with this in the next draft of the DCO.
Parts B - F	Work No. 11 - Noted. Please will the Applicant include the UpToDate position in the Statement of Common Ground the ExA has required between the Applicant and the Environment Agency. Work No 12 -Noted; the ExA would remind the Applicant of the general advice against tailpieces in Requirements however. Work No 13 - Thank you. The ExA will await the next revision of the dDCO
Part G - Q1	Noted
Part G - Q2	Noted

Availability of Examination Documents

The application documents and Relevant Representations are available on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/the-sizewell-c-project/?ipcsection=overview>

All further documents submitted in the course of the Examination will also be published at the above location.

For ease of navigation, please refer to the [Examination Library](#) (EL) which is accessible via a blue button under the 'Documents' tab. The EL is updated regularly throughout the Examination.

The EL records and provides a hyperlink to:

- each application document;
- each representation made to the Examination; and
- each Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority.

Each document is given a unique reference which will be fixed for the duration of the Examination. A hyperlink to each document on the project webpage is also provided. **Please use the unique reference numbers applied in the EL when referring to any Examination Documents in any future submissions that you make.**

Deposit locations

Documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the deposit locations below. A physical copy of the application documents is available to view at the Town Council office however please note that the office is currently closed due to the national lockdown. You may need to bring a form of ID in order to use a computer at these locations.

Please Note - Opening hours and the availability of information technology is set out in the table below but may be subject to local changes or additional limitations to address Coronavirus public health requirements. Bearing in mind the availability of the documents on the National Infrastructure Planning website and the effect of public health restrictions, please consider your need to attend the location with care. **Please check the current circumstances with the relevant location before you attend.**

Location	Address	Opening hours	Printing/photo copying costs
Sizewell C Information Office	48-50 High Street, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4EW	Monday 09:30am to 5:00pm Tuesday 09:30am to 5:00pm Wednesday 09:30am to 5:00pm Thursday 09:30am to 5:00pm Friday 09:30am to 5:00pm Saturday Closed Sunday Closed COVID-19: Anyone wishing to visit the office should call ahead to check they are able to access the office (see contact details below)	No charge for printing but requests for large amounts of printing would have to be outsourced and could therefore incur charges.
Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council Office	Council Offices, Main Street, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4ER By appointment only (see contact details below)	Monday 09:30am to 12:30pm and 02:00pm to 04:45pm Tuesday 09:30am to 12:30pm and 02:00pm to 04:45pm Wednesday Closed Thursday 09:30am to 12:30pm Friday 09:30am to 12:30pm Saturday Closed Sunday Closed COVID-19: Office currently closed. Full COVID-19 guidance rules must be followed	Photocopies: Black and White - • A4 - 10p • A3 - 20p Colour - • A4 - 25p • A3 - 50p
Location contact details			
Sizewell C Information Office: https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c/contact-us Email: info@sizewellc.com Telephone: Freephone 0800 197 6102			

<p>Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council Office: https://www.leistontowncouncil.gov.uk/contact-us/</p> <p>Email: townclerk@leistontowncouncil.gov.uk Telephone: 01728 830388</p>	
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If you require a hard copy of the application documents please contact the Applicant by email at info@sizewellc.com or by telephone on Freephone: 0800 197 6102

Your Privacy

Privacy Notice Amendment: Handling your Personal Information

Your privacy is important to us. The privacy notice amendment in this Annex explains the personal data that we will be processing specifically for virtual meeting and hearing events. The current [National Infrastructure Privacy Notice](#) should be read in conjunction with this amendment before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate. The amendment sets out how we have changed our data collection and the processing of that data in order to run virtual meetings and hearings.

What will be collected?

- E-mail address
- Phone number (if a participant joins by mobile)
- IP address
- Display Name
- Self-Image – If video is shared
- A livestream and a video or audio recording of the event

How is it collected?

- E-mail address requested in event invite.
- Phone numbers - If the participant joins by phone, then your phone number would be visible to all participants (this can be masked by the individual by turning off Caller ID, generally known as dialling 141) in which case a random number is displayed.
- IP address – Connections to Microsoft Teams will capture the IP address of the participant.
- Display Name – This is collected from the participants joining details
- Self-Image – This is collected when the participant activates their camera
- A video or audio livestream and recording of the event – This is collected when the participant activates their microphone and/ or camera

What metadata will be taken from joining?

- IP Address, joining account information (Email address), Browser Type (If browser is used instead of Teams App)

Where will it be stored?

- E-mail addresses, Phone numbers, Display Name and Self-Image will be stored in the virtual meeting room, within Exchange Online, MS Stream (Video Recording) and as appropriate will be transferred to an internal case management system.
- A video or audio recording of the event forms a document in the case record for all National Infrastructure casework and will be held within Exchange Online, MS Stream (Video Recording) and as appropriate will be transferred to an internal case management system and will also be published (for streaming access or download) on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>.
- A livestream may be captured by an external provider for the purposes of providing a livestream link, but this process will not involve the transfer of any IP address or metadata, or data other than that which is already visible in the public

domain to attendees of the virtual event and/or on the National Infrastructure Planning website to the provider.

- IP Address and Metadata will be stored in the Audit Log.

Cookies

- The Planning Inspectorate does not use any of our own technology or storage for the creation and presentation, or collection of cookies or web-beacon analytics.
- Cookies are collected by Microsoft, which is covered in their Privacy Statement [here](#).