

Sizewell C – Socio-economic impacts (Supply Chain)

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This brief paper is in response to the comments made by the Applicant and their representatives at the Socio-economic and Community Issues hearing on Friday 9th July 2021.
- 1.2 In particular I am asking the ExA to reflect on the claims about the degree of beneficial upside the The Sizewell C Project is alleged to bringing to the East of England.
- 1.3 Specifically, I am asking that the ExA looks at claims repeatedly made about the large number of Supply Chain opportunities available to 'local and regional' businesses, bringing additional employment and revenue to local businesses.
- 1.4 In this regard I attach a copy of the NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited Annual Report and Statements (Year Ended 31st December 2020), lodged with, and published by Companies House on 8th July 2021.
- 1.5 In particular I wish to draw the ExA's attention to Page 1 Para 7 which states:

"The Sizewell C project development is based on a replication strategy from HPC and will be based on the same EPR Technology. This key principle will enable benefitting from feedback and experience from HPC as well as **a fully developed UK supply chain**. The replication strategy and lessons learned should therefore lead to a significant decrease in costs as a result of lower construction costs combined with a lower risk profile."

- 1.6 It is my contention that the assertions made by the Applicant (and their agents) on Friday and the narrative at 1.5 above, cannot both be totally truthful and therefore should not be relied on by the ExA, nor businesses and residents in the Eastern Region, anticipating an opportunity to win significant Supply Chain contracts based on the premise of a 'level playing field.'
- 1.7 In this context I would ask the ExA to probe the Applicant further on the degree of Supply Chain opportunity (volume and value) they anticipate being available to truly 'local' businesses (i.e. Suffolk and particularly East Suffolk) and regional businesses (i.e. Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex).
- 1.8 The ExA may also wish to consider the implication(s) of a further statement curiously made in the same document referring to NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited (Page 4 Para 3) which states:

"EDF Energy (sic) is committed to developing skills in the UK and is investing in UK skills and talent. However, the Company recognises **the importance of being able to access necessary skills and talent from the EU and beyond and this is especially relevant for the volume of construction workers required to complete construction of SZC**. EDF continues to monitor developments in respect of the future UK-EU immigration system and has engaged with the UK Government and other organisations such as the Confederation of British Industry and Energy UK on the topic.