

27 JUN 2013

MINSMERE LEVELS STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

Planning Group
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RECORDED DELIVERY

26 June 2013

The Chief Inspector
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square, Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6P



Dear Sir

Consultation by EDF Energy re development of Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station

I attach a copy of a letter I sent to you over five weeks ago on 20 May 2013.

I am wondering whether it arrived at your office as so far I have not received an acknowledgement, let alone a reply.

If it was not received, could you let me know as soon as possible and I will send you replacement copies of the enclosures.

If, in fact, it did arrive, could you at least acknowledge it and give me some indication as to when we can expect a reply.

I look forward to hearing from you very shortly

Yours sincerely

W. John Rea Price
Secretary, Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group

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20 May 2013

The Chief Inspector
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
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Bristol
BS1 6P

Dear Sir

Consultation by EDF Energy re development of Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station

I attach a copy (Annex 1) of an exchange of Emails between Tom McGarry, the local representative of EDF Energy, and ourselves regarding the process to be followed for the preparation of the initial Scoping Report (SR) that will determine the form of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposed Sizewell development both during the construction phase and during the lifetime of the station.

We understand that EDF's application for the granting of a Development Consent Order must be accompanied by a EIA in the course of the preparation of which all interested parties must be consulted. Paragraph 1.1.8 of the introduction to its Environmental Report produced as part of its Stage 1 pre-application consultation refers, a copy (Annex 2) of which is enclosed for your ease of reference.

Our question to EDF, as you will see from the emails, has been as to when we, and other interested bodies, can expect to be consulted on the terms of reference for the SR. Somewhat to our surprise, Tom McGarry of EDF informs us that this is not a matter for his organisation, but rather for the Planning Inspectorate. We do not, however, quite

understand how his reference to a 'Scoping Opinion' squares with the more formal procedure suggested in para 1.1.8 of the EDF Environmental Report

'The EIA scoping report will be submitted to the Secretary of State and will give statutory consulters and other interested parties the opportunity to comment on the scope, approach and methodologies to be used during the EIA process '

If responsibility for the preparation of the SR is that of the Planning Inspectorate, our questions to you are:

1. When you expect to engage with organisations such as ours in the consultation we had been seeking from EDF? -- however
2. If EDF is wrong in saying that you have this responsibility, could you please tell us who has?
3. What will your role be in overseeing the preparation of, and consultation on, the EIA itself?
4. How will the timescale of this relate to EDF's Stage 2 consultation? EDF has told us that it is likely to be over a very brief as it will in essence be the presentation of a final definitive proposal prior to its formal submission to your Inspectorate for approval and onward submission to the Secretary of State? The preparation of, and consultation on, an acceptable EIA would seem to us to be a much more extended undertaking.

The reasons for our great concern about this issue are several, including

1. The considerable dissatisfaction with the form that EDF determined for its own environmental report and the issues that it has chosen to consider within it.
2. The very short period that was allowed for the Stage 1 consultation, taking place as it did either side of the Christmas and New Year holiday.
3. The fact that a number of the issues relating to the management of the drainage inland water and of coastal protection on which we were asked to comment were still the subject of on-going studies still being undertaken by EDF, making it impossible to make any definitive response.

You will therefore not be surprised therefore that when we are asked to comment on any draft Scoping Report that we will be seeking terms of reference for both it and the EIA that allow for a much more open-minded evaluation of the impact of the Sizewell C development in all its phases than EDF appears hitherto to have been envisaging.

We have particular concerns about the impact on inland water flows and the wider environment. of the vast areas of land that will be taken up by vehicle parking,

accommodation campuses and hard standing for storage of material and setting up We are also greatly alarmed by the potential consequences for our very vulnerable coastline of the length and breadth of seaward jetty that now appears to be envisaged.

I also attach for your information a copy (Annex 3) of our organisation's response to the Stage 1 consultation which covered some of these issues in rather more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely

W. John Rea Price
Secretary, Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group