

Meeting Note

File reference	EN010027
Status	FINAL
Author	Mike Harris

Meeting with	Dong Energy
Meeting date	13 December 2011
Attendees (IPC)	Kathryn Powell (Case Manager – Lead) Mike Harris (Case Manager – Support) David Price (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Noreen Sutton (Lawyer) Gideon Amos (Pre-application Commissioner)
Attendees (non IPC)	Malcolm Johnson Daniel Haswell Trine Hoffman Sørensen (by phone)
Location	IPC Offices, Temple Quay House, Bristol

Meeting purpose	Dong Energy providing a project update on pre-application progress for the Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm project
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>The IPC confirmed that a note of the meeting would be taken along with a record of any advice given and published on the project page of the website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008).</p> <p><i>Dong Energy Presentation</i></p> <p>Dong Energy gave a presentation which covered the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project overview; • Timeline; • Communities and Stakeholders Consultation progress; • EIA surveys progress; • Next steps. <p>During the presentation the following points were discussed in more detail.</p> <p>The IPC queried whether the indicative range of number of turbines and their output (MW) would be narrowed by the time an application is submitted. Dong Energy confirmed that legal advice would be taken to assist in deciding how wide the range would be within the submitted draft Development Consent Order (DCO). It was confirmed that survey work accounts for the worst case scenario for both parameters.</p> <p>The IPC queried how consultation would be carried out on the</p>
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Habitats Regs Assessment (HRA). Dong Energy confirmed that the screening process will begin in early 2012 and will run alongside consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information (which will also include brief details on the HRA). Dong Energy confirmed that the Statement of Community Consultation had been published.

During discussions about the environmental survey work the IPC queried whether the scope of the surveys had been agreed with the statutory authorities. Dong Energy confirmed that they had discussed and agreed scoping methodology with organisations including Natural England and Joint Nature Conservation Committee. It was confirmed that Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have also been involved on an informal basis.

Part of the presentation addressed the matter of overlap between gas and oil licence areas (licensed by DECC) and the area leased to Dong Energy by The Crown Estate for this wind farm development. Dong Energy advised that an agreement has been reached between the respective licence holders but that this has the potential to be an issue for other offshore developments too, in particular Round 3 sites.

Specific Queries

Prior to the meeting Dong Energy provided the IPC with specific questions on Local Impact Reports, Transboundary Effects and Cumulative and in-combination impact assessment. The IPC provided the following advice in response.

Local Impact Reports (LIR):

- An invitation to submit an LIR will be issued to both 'B' (host) and 'A' (neighbour) local authorities. The submission of an LIR is not mandatory but in view of its importance to the process, Dong Energy anticipated early contact with the relevant local authorities on this;
- It was noted that Section 105 (PA2008) specifically identifies the LIR as a matter to which the Secretary of State must have regard in making a decision, it was therefore a key document in the examination and its early submission would assist timely progress. Given the significance of the document however it was noted that the Examining Authority has the discretion to accept a late submission of an LIR. ;
- Despite the above, an examination must still be completed within 6 months unless consent to extend is granted by the Secretary of State.

Transboundary Effects:

- Dong Energy mentioned that this query arose from the possible presence of international fishing rights in the

	<p>area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IPC confirmed that it has (to date) no experience of transboundary effects of NSIP projects on non-EEA states. It did however confirm that the Isle of Man is a British Crown Dependency. • It was also confirmed that if a scoping report were to be submitted now, that the Isle of Man would be consulted as a non prescribed consultee following revisions to advice published in Advice Note 3. • The IPC advised that it is unable to provide examples of best practice from other Developers. • The IPC encouraged Dong Energy to consider in detail the advice provided within Advice Note 12. • The IPC advises Applicants generally to consider consultation with other EEA states at a Government departmental level rather than just trade associations. <p>Cumulative and in-combination Impact Assessment (CIA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dong Energy outlined that it can be a challenge to consider cumulative impacts of other projects due to limited information being available in the public domain on what form such other development might take. • The IPC advised that advice within Advice Note 9 (Rochdale Envelope) is relevant in this instance. It was also suggested that it would be beneficial to consider the advice on this subject contained within published Scoping Opinions. <p><i>Other Matters</i></p> <p>Outreach – As a result of the discussion on LIRs it was agreed that the IPC would further consider the potential to hold an Outreach event with relevant local authorities. It was agreed that there may be potential to link this with other proposals in the region.</p> <p>Future meetings – it was agreed that a teleconference project update meeting would be arranged for the end of January 2012</p>
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Specific decisions/ follow up required?	<p>The following actions were agreed for follow up after the meeting:</p> <p>Dong Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward Local Authority contacts to the IPC <p>IPC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward links to Advice Note 1 on Local Impact Reports and other advice notes referred to at the meeting ANs 3, 9 and 12; • Make contact with Local Authorities to discuss the
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	<p>potential for process focused outreach in February 2012 possibly with reference to other projects in the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider whether any further advice can be given on the approach of other offshore wind farm developers to transboundary effects consultation.
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Circulation List	Attendee list above
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