



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010055
<b>Status</b>	<b>Draft</b>
<b>Author</b>	Louise Evans
<b>Date</b>	06 May 2015
<b>Meeting with</b>	Wrexham Power Limited
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	<u>The Planning Inspectorate</u>  Tracey Williams (Case Manager) Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Stephanie Newman (Case Manager) Helen Lancaster (Senior EIA and Land Rights Adviser) Jenny Cassell (EIA Advisor) Louise Evans (Case Officer)  <u>The applicant</u>  Daniel Chapman – WPL Mark Brown – Local Dialogue Darren Mace – Atkins Karl Cradick – Savills
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Update on progress of proposed development, including intended dates of submission of draft documents and application, as well as updates on meetings with key statutory bodies.
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

#### Introductions

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) introduced Stephanie Newman as the new case manager for this project. It was confirmed that Tracey Williams would act as deputy manager, and Tom Carpen would continue to oversee the project as the Infrastructure Planning Lead.

## **Submission dates**

The applicant is currently working on the documents intended for submission, and intends to submit their application by 30 June 2015. The applicant stated that it intends to submit draft documents, including the Book of Reference, Development Consent Order, Plans, draft Habitats Regulations Assessment report, the project description chapter from the Environmental Statement (ES) and Consultation Report during May 2015.

The Inspectorate advised the applicant that at least 6 weeks would be needed to be built in to their submission schedule in order to allow for a full review of the draft documents, including a face to face meeting to provide initial comments. The Inspectorate also asked the applicant to provide draft copies of the Grid Connection Statement, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Explanatory Memorandum and the ES project description chapter. It was explained that the Inspectorate is unable to undertake a review of the entire draft ES.

## **Updates on discussions with statutory consultees**

The applicant is continuing to meet quarterly with Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC). According to the applicant, WCBC remains supportive and agrees with the project in principle, but wishes to reserve its position until the application has been submitted in full.

The applicant will be seeking to enter into Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) with WCBC, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Cadw if the application is accepted. The applicant will also be consulting with WCBC, Scottish Power Energy Network (SPEN) and NRW on its Grid Connection Statement. WPL intends to submit a draft of this document to these parties within the next ten days.

Discussions are also taking place to discuss the potential of Wrexham Energy Centre providing heat to the proposed Wrexham Prison. The applicant also confirmed that it has had contact with the prison delivery team concerning local supply chain opportunities arising from the prison development that could be replicated for the power station. .

## **Grid Connection Statement**

The applicant advised that it might not be able to submit a draft version of the Grid Connection Statement to the Inspectorate with the first round of draft documents, as it might still be in the process of being reviewed by SPEN, National Grid and WCBC. WPL would not wish to submit this document to the Inspectorate if its condition is 'too draft'. The Inspectorate advised that the Grid Connection Statement is an essential document, and recommended that the applicant should include submission of a draft version of this to the Inspectorate within their submission timeline.

The Inspectorate asked the applicant if it is aware of what consenting regime SPEN will be applying under to upgrade the electricity connection (which is not part of this DCO) and whether it had details of the requirements within the DCO required for the grid connection. The applicant confirmed that the requirements have not yet been agreed by SPEN but WPL is aware of three connection consenting options, which depend on whether they re-string an existing overhead connection, lay new

underground cables or carry out the replacement of existing circuit towers. The Inspectorate advised that this information should be included in the Grid Connection Statement.

## **Environmental**

The applicant confirmed that it will not be applying for any environmental permits at the time the DCO application is made. The Inspectorate advised that NRW was unlikely to advise in principle whether an environmental permit could be granted and that the applicant should provide as much detail as possible in the ES. The applicant advised that it is seeking a letter of no impediment from NRW in relation to European protected species.

The applicant will share its draft No Significant Effects Report (NSER) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) with NRW once complete, as both documents are currently still in preparation.

## **Water resources**

The Inspectorate requested clarification over the use and source of water for commissioning and operation, and intentions for water discharge. The applicant confirmed that the large requirement of water for commissioning would be met using water supplied from a nearby reservoir, via a private agreement with Welsh Water. With respect to water discharge, the applicant is in discussions with NRW over the use of a pumping station for foul water. A strategy for dealing with surface water has been agreed with NRW.

## **Transport**

The Inspectorate advised that the applicant should refer to National Planning Policy Statement EN-2, which encourages the multimodal transportation of materials (fuels and residues). The applicant was advised to include an assessment of what considerations have been given to rail and water as options for the movement of construction materials.

The applicant stated that traffic generated by the site and its construction would not be significant and that there is not a railway connection or port within reasonable distance to the proposed site location.

## **299MWe restriction**

The Inspectorate advised the applicant to refer to the Hirwaun and Progress Power applications, whose decisions would be announced in July 2015, for guidance on an enforceable 299MWe restriction.

## **Round Table**

The Inspectorate advised that once a review of the draft documents had taken place, it might be decided that a Round Table meeting or tri-partite teleconference could still be of benefit to the Wrexham Energy Centre project, as there could be potential for gaining further understanding from key parties on unresolved issues. It was agreed that this would be discussed again after submission of the draft documents.

## **Any Other Business**

The Inspectorate advised the applicant to submit a shapefile three weeks prior to the official submission of the DCO application, and that a letter providing advice on preparation for submission would be sent to them in advance of the submission.

## **Specific decisions / follow up required?**

The Inspectorate confirmed that an email officially confirming Stephanie Newman as the Case Manager for this project would be circulated, as well as the note of the meeting. The applicant agreed to provide written confirmation of the contact details of their key statutory consultee contacts.