



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010055
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Pat Pikniczka
<b>Date</b>	<b>25 April 2014</b>
<b>Meeting with</b>	Wrexham Power Limited
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference call
<b>Attendees</b>	<u>The Planning Inspectorate</u> Tracey Williams (Case Manager) Pat Pikniczka (Case Officer) Helen Lancaster (Senior EIA and Land Rights Adviser)  <u>The applicant</u> Daniel Chapman (Wrexham Power Limited) Simon Keefe (Wrexham Power Limited) Rupert Wood (Wrexham Power Limited) Richard Griffiths (Pinsent Mansons) Darren Mace (Atkins) Steve Ricks (Atkins) Karl Cradick (Savills) Andrew Mann (Savills)
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Update on Wrexham Energy Centre project
<b>Circulation</b>	<i>All attendees</i>

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

The applicant provided the Planning Inspectorate with update on the project.

The applicant updated the Inspectorate on general amendments made to the design of the power island 'power station'. The applicant explained that output capacity of the power station has been reduced from 1,200MW to 299MW. The power station will have up to two stacks around 40 – 50 metres high. The applicant confirmed that this revised proposal would form the subject of the statutory consultation.

The applicant advised that a decision has been made for the power station to be located in the south-west part of the Bryn Lane site to maximise separation from residential properties in Isycoed to the east.

### **Electricity connection**

The applicant confirmed that the electricity connection associated with the Wrexham Energy Centre project will no longer be included in the DCO application. The applicant explained that although the electricity grid isn't a part of DCO, the applicant intends to refer to it when carrying out statutory consultation under requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) for everyone to have a clear understanding of the overall project.

The applicant was advised to ensure that all parts of the electricity connection are considered in the cumulative assessment within the Environmental Statement (ES). The Inspectorate also advised that the applicant may wish to plan to have other consents needed for the wider project to run in parallel with the DCO application process for example, consents needed for the electricity connection. This would assist the Examining Authority 'ExA' during examination.

### **Gas connection**

The applicant explained that non-statutory consultation was carried out on the gas connection and power station. The emerging proposal lies within the gas connection corridor notified at that time.

### **Land surveys and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**

The applicant advised that there are ongoing discussions with landowners since the revised scheme was publicly announced and that there is on-going consultation with non-statutory consultees.

The Planning Inspectorate asked if the applicant intends to seek any new powers under section 53 of the Act. The applicant confirmed that due to recent changes to the scheme less land is now needed for the project and no additional survey rights are required.

### **Scoping Opinion**

The Planning Inspectorate advised that the Scoping Opinion requested in March 2014 would be adopted by the Secretary of State by the statutory deadline.

### **Engagement with stakeholders**

The Inspectorate asked for an update on engagement with statutory consultees including Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The applicant confirmed

that NRW was last consulted in 2013 and the applicant intends to re-engage with NRW shortly before undertaking its statutory consultation.

The Inspectorate asked the applicant for an update on the Environmental Permit (EP). The applicant explained that this is not a statutory requirement for the DCO application, however an application for an EP will be made after the DCO application has been submitted.

The Inspectorate advised that although this is not a statutory requirement for the DCO application process it assists the ExA during the examination of the DCO application. The ExA must be satisfied that EP can be granted to assist the ExA when writing its recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State.

It was explained that NRW advises applicants to submit applications for an Environmental Permit six months in advance of submission of the DCO application.

The applicant explained that a number of activities were carried out earlier on in the year to engage with stakeholders. It was explained that there are ongoing discussions with Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC); Welsh Assembly Members (AMs); local Members of Parliament (MPs), community councils and action groups including WRAPS. The applicant advised that further meetings are arranged with the local planning authorities.

## **Consultation**

The applicant indicated that statutory consultation in accordance with Planning Act 2008 (as amended) will commence at the end of May/June 2014.

The Inspectorate provided general advice to the applicant on a draft Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) that was submitted to the Inspectorate in March 2014. The applicant was advised ensure that clear project description is provided in the SOCC and to be explicit when describing each element of the project and consenting regimes that specific element would fall under if other than the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

The Inspectorate advised the applicant to ensure that the Planning Act 2008 process is correctly explained in the SOCC.

The Planning Inspectorate's detailed comments on the SOCC provided to the applicant in April 2014 can be reviewed [here](#).

The applicant explained that NRW will be consulted upon the PEIR.

## **Draft documents**

The applicant was advised to ensure that at least three months is built into their project plan for Inspectorate to review draft documents and for the applicant to have enough time to consider comments received. The applicant

was advised that it normally takes approximately up to four weeks from the date of receipt of draft documents for the Inspectorate to provide comments.

The applicant was advised that section 46 must be received by Inspectorate on or before the applicant commences its consultation under s42 of the 2008 Act, agreed by the applicant.

**Specific decisions / follow up required?**

- The applicant agreed to inform the Planning Inspectorate once the final SOCC has been published in the newspapers.
- Applicant agreed to confirm s46 before commencing its consultation under s42.
- Teleconference planned for 3 June 2014.