



Meeting note

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| File reference | EN010069 Abergelli Power Project |
| Status | Final |
| Author | Ewa Sherman |
| Date | 18 December 2014 |
| Meeting with | Abergelli Power Limited (APL) |
| Venue | Meeting Room M1, Temple Quay House, Bristol BS1 6PN |
| Attendees | Planning Inspectorate: Tom Carpen – Infrastructure Planning Lead Ewa Sherman – Case officer Jenny Colfer – Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor Applicant: Adam Heffill – Abergelli Power Limited Gary McGovern - Pinsent Masons Dermot Scanlon - Peter Brett Associates LLP |
| Meeting objectives | Project update. The Planning Inspectorate's comments on draft application documents. |
| Circulation | All attendees |

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The applicant was reminded of the Planning Inspectorate's openness policy that any advice given will be recorded and published on the Planning Portal website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) (PA 2008) and that any advice given does not constitute legal advice upon which the applicants (or others) can rely.

Project update

The applicant provided an update in relation to the preferred access road for the Project, which would provide access to the Project Site from the west via the B4489 utilising the existing road owned by National Grid plc and then via a newly constructed road to the south and east of the existing gas compressor station adjacent to the Project Site (described as 'Option 2' in previous documents). Following the applicant's meeting with National Grid plc in December 2014, there are still issues to be resolved before the submission of the application such as security and coordination arrangements. However, both parties are in the process of drafting protective provisions to be included in the Development Consent Order (DCO) to secure the position of both parties and allow APL to use the preferred Access Option 2 only. Further to APL confirming that access road will be an integral part of the development, PINS advised that this particular choice will need to be justified and therefore the

applicant is encouraged to talk to City and County of Swansea Council and to the Welsh Assembly if the applicant considers there may be issues regarding the definition of associated development.

APL asked for PINS view on whether it would be beneficial to hold any additional consultation under s42 of the Planning Act 2008 on the revised red line boundary for the project, after removing Access Option 1 from the red line boundary. PINS advised that Government guidance encourages an iterative consultation process where consultation on changes is proportionate to the change. In making this decision the applicant will need to consider whether anyone would be prejudiced by the choice of Access Option 2, and to take into account the responses it has already received on this issue. It may be beneficial to update consultees on changes at the least, and to make it clear what changes have occurred and whether additional views are sought.

Follow up from outreach meeting

PINS confirmed that the outreach event in Swansea on 9 December 2014 was very useful in becoming more familiar with the project area and bringing key stakeholders together. The meeting was attended by the applicant, representatives of the City and County of Swansea Council (CCSC), Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and local Community Councillors, and demonstrated to PINS that all parties appear to be communicating and identifying issues openly.

The applicant advised that they found it very helpful as the roles of APL and the Planning Inspectorate in the DCO process were clearly outlined to the representatives of the Town and Community Councils. Also, they had an opportunity to consider questions regarding the proposal in a wider context of National Planning Statements and the Capacity Market / Auctions.

A note of the outreach meeting will be published separately on the project's website.

Draft application documents

PINS provided comments on the draft documents submitted on 17 November 2014, and referred the applicant to the Advice Note Fifteen: Drafting Development Consent Orders recently published on the Planning Portal's page. Advice Note 15 can be found here: <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

Please see the link to the document outlining comments on the draft documents: <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/wales/abergelli-power/?ipcsection=advice&ipcadvise=b311c2018d>

PINS confirmed the availability to provide further advice on the following draft application documents:

- Book of Reference,
- Revised Development Consent Order,
- Explanatory Memorandum,
- Revised Consultation Report,
- No Significant Effects Report,
- Land Plans,
- Selection of Work Plans, and
- Schedule of the Work Plans.

The applicant advised that they would be able to submit draft documents in mid-late January 2015.

Future review of application against NPS

PINS advised that the applicant should review their application against the National Planning Statements (NPS) in relation to Fossil Fuel electricity generating infrastructure and that this could form the basis of a further meeting before the application is submitted. The applicant and PINS agreed to follow this up.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

The applicant will inform PINS when the revised draft documents are ready for comments, bearing in mind that it takes three weeks for the Inspectorate to review documents and provide advice.

PINS confirmed that the applicant will receive a warm-up letter ahead of the submission date with practical information on submitting the application, and will be informed of a new case manager who will deal with the acceptance of the DCO application.