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BY E-MAIL
Planning Casework Branch
Planning Directorate
Climate Change and Rural Affairs Group
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

FAO: Alan Groves

National Consenting Welsh Government Planning Directorate

PINS Ref: EN010072

Date: 27/09/2023

Dear Mr Groves,

REGULATION 4 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (CHANGES TO, AND REVOCATION OF, DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDERS) REGULATIONS 2011

APPLICATION TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE GLYN RHONWY PUMPED STORAGE GENERATING STATION ORDER 2017 (S.I 2017/No.330)

Snowdonia Pumped Hydro Limited ("SPH") (company number 08644844) having its registered address at 35 Ballards Lane, London, N3 1XW, is the undertaker with the benefit of The Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Generating Station Order 2017, which was granted by the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy & Climate Change on 29th March 2017 (Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 330) (the "Order") as corrected by The Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Generating Station (Correction) Order 2017 (Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 969) following an application made by SPH (Planning Inspectorate reference EN010072). The Order was amended by the Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Generating Station (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2021 (Statutory Instrument 2021 No. 1284 (W.323)).

SPH previously applied for a non-material amendment to the Order to extend the period for implementation to 29 March 2024. This was required due to the circumstances arising from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including the restrictions imposed by the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 (as amended) and the various Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations which frustrated SPH's ability to fulfil the various requirements of the DCO, and to commence the authorised development before the expiry of that deadline.

Since the grant of the non-material change, SPH has been endeavouring to commence the development and has carried out much of the required work for fulfilment of the various requirements in the DCO including 12 months of water monitoring as well as the required air quality and noise monitoring at the site. We have worked with Gwynedd Council to develop a strategy for delivery of these requirements that meets their expectations. At present we are currently working to submit partial discharges of the required construction and environmental management plans to Gwynedd Council for delivery of Phase 1 of the project. We are looking to submit requests to discharge Requirement 7 (Air Quality), 9 (Water Quality Management) and 21 (Written Scheme of Investigation) in the next few weeks.



As part of that ongoing work, we have carried out extensive detailed engineering design work on the project in collaboration with Fichtner Engineering Consultants who have significantly developed the project design, and have run an in depth tender process with a number of industry leading civil engineering and Mechanical & Electrical contractors.

The results of this work have highlighted significant and unprecedented rises in the capital costs for the project since initial cost estimates made using industry data from c.2021. This has changed the economics of the project which means that a positive investment decision is likely to depend on the outcome of the Government's Long Duration Energy Storage support scheme; the announcement of which is scheduled for 2024.

SPH therefore seeks to change the Order to further extend the deadline for the commencement of the authorised development to 29 March 2026, an extension of 24 months and is applying to the Welsh Ministers pursuant to section 153 and paragraph 2 of Schedule 6 to the Planning Act 2008 to make changes to the Order that are not material. This application is subject to the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011.

SPH note that there has been no change to the EIA or HRA which would require reassessment at this time and this is set out in detail in the supporting documentation.

The following documents are included to support the application for a non-material amendment:

- Non-Material Change application (consultation document);
- Environmental Appraisal Report (and appendices);
- Habitats Regulations Assessment 2023 Review
- Regulation 6 Notice;
- Draft amendment Order (Word and PDF version)

If there are any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Dave Holmes

Managing Director