



Meeting note

File reference	EN010073
Status	Final
Author	Karl-Jonas Johansson
Date	14 June 2016
Meeting with	Tidal Lagoon Cardiff
Venue	Temple Quay House
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate Richard Hunt (Senior EIA Advisor) Stephanie Newman (Case Manager) Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case officer)
	Tidal Lagoon Cardiff Alex Blake (Senior Consents Manager) Tessa Blazey (Development Director)
Meeting objectives	Project update
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Introduction

The meeting was held under The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) openness policy along with the requirement under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) for the Inspectorate to publish any advice it provides on making an application. Advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

Project update

The Applicant gave an update on the progression of the design development for Tidal Lagoon Cardiff and an outline of the non-statutory consultation which had taken place to date. The Applicant outlined that options to facilitate construction and the grid connection at the western landfall were being developed. The Applicant explained that design presented at environmental scoping stage had evolved through a number of design iterations and consideration was being given to the potential for lock gates on both lagoon walls. The applicant noted that due to the scale of the proposed structure various options were being considered in terms of public access to the lagoon walls which could be different from the Tidal Lagoon Swansea Bay project.

The Applicant noted that work was being carried out to investigate the effect of the project on existing water assets and outlined how they would be assessed in detail in the future. It was confirmed that Dwr Cymru Welsh Water were engaging closely with the project.

The Inspectorate discussed the overlap between the marine licensing process and the Development Consent Order (DCO) process and Natural Resources Wales' current position on the application of the Marine Works Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. The potential overlap of environmental issues between the two processes at examination was discussed.

The administrative status of Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon during operation was discussed. The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that the project was engaging with stakeholders in terms of defining the statutory responsibilities for the area of the lagoon development. The Applicant stated that early meetings had been held with the Marine Management Organisation and the Marine and Coastguard Agency on this matter.

Consultation work on the draft Statement of Community Consultation had commenced and would be consulted upon in quarter three 2016. The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it has been working with local community groups in the wider area for the last three years involving local stakeholders and communities in the project development.

The Applicant is intending to conduct non-statutory consultation on a series of options in quarter one 2017 and conduct the first round of statutory consultation on the preferred options for the scheme during the second half of 2017. The second round of statutory consultation is scheduled for early 2017, with the intention of submitting the application in mid-2018.

The Applicant confirmed that it is working closely with NRW and confirmed that the work with NRW is progressing well.

The applicant stated that it had been in discussion with Welsh Government regarding the potential for a skills and training programme.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that Cardiff City Council and Newport City Council had indicated to them that they would potentially like the Inspectorate to hold an outreach event for the project stakeholders. It was agreed that the Inspectorate would explore the possibility of holding an outreach event in Cardiff combined with a site visit. Interest in terms of exploring the potential for joint responses had been raised, it was agreed that this would be further discussed at the future outreach event. The Applicant was advised to inform both Councils to look at how joint statements were handled for the Hinkley C Connection application.

Survey work

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that some statutory parties object to the use of historical survey data and that the preference would be for fresh studies to be conducted over an extended period (i.e. greater than 1 year).

Flexibility in the Development Consent Order

The Applicant indicated that they would like to give further consideration to increased flexibility in the Tidal Lagoon Cardiff DCO compared to the Tidal Lagoon Swansea Bay DCO. The Applicant stated that they would be seeking to submit proposals which would allow more flexibility in terms of options for the sea wall design, turbine arrays

and lock gates. The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that to achieve flexibility for the project it would need to be clear in its application material and consultations what it was applying for, such that a Rochdale Envelope approach had been adopted to assess the worst case scenarios in the Environmental Statement. The Applicant was further advised that a separate meeting with the Inspectorate on the issue of flexibility would be helpful to consider the detail of these elements of the submission.

The applicant advised that they intended to not only apply the learning from Tidal Lagoon Swansea Bay but also enhance the approach for Tidal Lagoon Cardiff, an example of this would be the adaptive environmental management plan.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

- Meeting of Evidence Plan Steering Group to be set up after the summer
- The Inspectorate to explore the possibility for an outreach event and site visit.
- Quarterly project update meetings to be arranged.
- Specific meeting to discuss flexibility within the order to be arranged.