



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010077/EN010078
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Karl-Jonas Johansson
<b>Date</b>	19 May 2016
<b>Meeting with</b>	ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Ltd
<b>Venue</b>	By telephone
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Marie Evans (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case Officer)  <b>Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Ltd</b> Mandy King (Planning and Environmental Advisor) Helen Walker (Project Manager) Julia Bolton (Assistant Project Manager) Mandy Gloyer (Stakeholder and Planning Policy Manager) Joanna Young (Stakeholder Manager) Kerrie Craig (Iberdrola Foundation Student)
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update
<b>Circulation</b>	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 s.51 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.

#### Evidence Plan

The Inspectorate was provided with the opportunity to review the draft Evidence Plan and provided initial comments at the meeting regarding Freedom of Information status. The Inspectorate advised that it would provide feedback on the draft Evidence Plan as requested by the proposed deadline of Tuesday 24 May.

The Inspectorate confirmed that it would publish high-level meeting notes from the Evidence Plan to capture any advice it provides. The Applicant acknowledged that DEFRA guidance recommends publishing the plan itself and will take this into consideration.

The Applicant confirmed that the Evidence Plan Steering Group would be provided with the actions from the first Evidence Plan Steering Group meeting shortly (post meeting note: these were circulated 23/05).

## **Scoping**

The Applicant confirmed that their proposed approach to scoping the two projects at the same time would be through two separate scoping reports.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to make sure that the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning EIA Regulations are met for both projects independently. The Inspectorate raised the risk that scoping both projects at the same time could potentially result in some confusion amongst the consultees and also when interpreting responses to consultation in terms of which project the consultees are responding to.

The Inspectorate noted that as long as the Applicant complied with the legislation it would be for the Applicant to decide its approach to seeking a scoping opinion; however, the Applicant should make sure the projects stand up on their own. The Applicant clarified that this timeframe was driven by the need to obtain the scoping opinions before the survey season for various ecological receptors but agreed to review their approach in light of the Inspectorate's advice.

## **Stakeholder engagement**

At the previous meeting, the Inspectorate advised that it would be useful to understand the applicant's broad approach to consultation in more detail.

The applicant's stakeholder manager, Mandy Gloyer, explained her role as Stakeholder and Planning Policy Manager and the differences between her role and that of Joanna Young as Stakeholder Manager based locally to the projects. Joanna Young explained her role and also the Applicant's consultation strategy to the Inspectorate.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that they were already meeting regularly with the local authorities to discuss issues across all of its portfolio of East Anglia projects.

In addition to this, the Applicant confirmed that they had set up various liaison groups for the local communities such as fishermen and landowners. They confirmed that the stakeholder manager, Joanna Young, would continue to work in that capacity after the application had been submitted for examination.

The Inspectorate confirmed that it could provide impartial advice on any issues arising from consultation. The Applicant was further advised to record both statutory and non-statutory consultations for the consultation report to be submitted with the DCO application.

## **Summary of Ornithology Extraordinary meeting with Natural England**

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it was discussing with Natural England the need to undertake further bird surveys, and if so the extent of the surveys, to inform the DCO application. The Applicant is presenting to Natural England the data it already holds in respect of birds, which has been gathered as part of the development of East Anglia ONE and THREE and the wider East Anglia zone.

### **Grid Connection**

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it was meeting with the local authority regarding the cable route in September 2016 and would present an update at the next meeting.

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

- Applicant to provide the Inspectorate with the project information necessary to set up the website by the end of May (completed)
- Joanna Young to be invited to all future meetings
- The Inspectorate to circulate dates for a meeting at Temple Quay House (Post meeting note: 6<sup>th</sup> July date fixed)