



Meeting note

File reference	EN010084
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	6 March 2018
Meeting with	Vattenfall
Venue	Teleconference
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Kay Sully (Case Manager) Siân Evans (Case Officer) Vattenfall Helen Jameson (Project Manager) Daniel Bates (Consents Manager) Jennifer Holgate (Lawyer)
Meeting objectives	Thanet Extension project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Introduction

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate outlined its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

Project update

The Applicant advised that The Crown Estate will shortly publish a notice regarding their intent to enter negotiations with Vattenfall regarding the Thanet Extension project.

The Applicant advised that they are expecting an updated grid connection offer from National Grid imminently.

The Applicant advised that the Habitats Regulations Assessment is continuing to be drafted as EIA assessments are completed.

The Applicant advised that Evidence Plan meetings in relation to onshore have been held. Further meetings will be held at the end of March.

The Applicant advised that site investigation works will be carried out in late spring 2018. This is likely to consist of bore holes and trial pits across the onshore development area. The decision to conduct these investigations early (they would normally take place post-consent) has been taken as a result of stakeholders' concerns regarding proposed onshore construction methodologies within the Pegwell Bay Country Park, which is a former landfill site. The Applicant advised that the Environmental Impact Assessment will consider alternative landfill installation methods and both above and underground cable options.

Draft documents

The Applicant advised that they will be submitting a draft DCO and Explanatory Memorandum for review by the Inspectorate in mid-March. They enquired whether any other documents should be submitted. The Inspectorate advised that it is for the Applicant to decide what to submit but as they interact with each other a suite of documents can be useful to see. The Inspectorate advised that they cannot review the Environmental Statement (ES) but it can be useful to see the project description in the ES. The Inspectorate highlighted the importance of ensuring the project description matches all elements of the project in the DCO. The Inspectorate advised that it is useful to see a draft Statement of Reasons.

The Inspectorate requested that as much advance notice as possible is given for submission of draft documents so that their review can be adequately resourced.

AoB

The Inspectorate advised that an [advisory letter regarding water preferred policy guidelines for the movement of abnormal loads](#) has been published under the guidance on the Inspectorate's website.