

Meeting note

Project name	Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station Material Change 1
File reference	EN010102
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	05 November 2019
Meeting with	NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited (the Applicant)
Venue	Offices of the Planning Inspectorate, Bristol
Meeting objectives	Discuss the progress of the Hinkley Point C project and material change application. Discuss further potential changes to the Development Consent Order (DCO).
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which Applicants (or others) could rely.

Hinkley Point C project update

The Applicant provided an update regarding the Hinkley Point C project:

- There were 4,500 workers on site.
- Earlier this year saw the completion of common raft foundation on Unit 1
- At Combrich Wharf the Applicant believed it had developed a less intrusive way of upgrading the wharf which will bring in abnormally large indivisible loads to the site.
- The first tunnel boring machine was 50 meters on its journey under the seabed into the Bristol Channel
- The jetty at the site is open and accepting deliveries which has led to lower HGV numbers; although, these numbers are likely to pick up again as components other than raw materials are delivered to site.
- The site was building up to the peak construction workforce.
- The transport and community forums were still ongoing and the relationships with local authorities were well developed and constructive.
- Recently the main concern being raised at the forums was that of the increasing workforce on site.

Timetable of material change application

The Applicant explained that it was waiting on the Environment Agency (EA) to reach a minded to decision on its environmental permit application. The earliest it expected the EA to decide the permit application was December 2019; although, it considered this date unlikely.

The Applicant explained that it could appeal under non-determination if the permit application took too long, although this was undesirable. The Applicant stated that it was hoping for the permit application to reach the minded to stage of consideration to reduce the risk in the Material Change examination. The Applicant explained that it would make

a decision on how to go forward by the end of November with an earliest submission date of the Material Change of Q1 2020.

Further changes to Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station DCO

The Applicant said that it intended to submit a further change application to the Hinkley Point C New Nuclear Power Station DCO. This would include some deletion of no longer required buildings, some moving and buildings whose design had evolved. The reasons for these changes were due to lessons learnt from Flamanville 3 and Taishan about prefabrication and, seismic geography on the HPC site. The Applicant explained that the buildings will generally only be one-two storeys and although certain buildings will be taller, they will still be considerably smaller than the buildings around them. For these reasons the Applicant considered the changes non-material.

The Applicant expects this change application will be submitted around May 2020 as construction of some buildings will need to commence by 2021. It was recognised that there would be a cross-over between the material change application and this non-material change application. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider the timing of consultations for both applications, to avoid confusion between the two. The Inspectorate explained that the Applicant will need to re-apply to Secretary of State (SoS) for a reduced consultee list.

The Applicant explained that it will consider submitting a further change application for the Interim Spent Fuel Store building. The Applicant explained that this change is not time critical and it is considering whether it should be regarded as non-material.

The Applicant explained that the changes that will be made are being built into the Sizewell C New Nuclear Build project and it will also be building flexibility into the DCO for that project.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- Both parties will contact the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) regarding the timetable of the submissions of both the material and non-material changes.