PC Infrastructure Planning Commission

Meeting Note

File reference	EN020003 – King's Lynn Connection
Status	Final
Author	Amy Cooper

Meeting with	National Grid	
Meeting date	17 August 2011	
Attendees (IPC)	Kay Fry, Jan Bessell, Andy Luke and Amy Cooper	
Attendees (non IPC)	National Grid (NG) - Andrew Connolly, Will Bridges,	
	Caroline Searle, Carolyn Gratty and Robert Denis	
Location	The IPC Board Room, Temple Quay House, Bristol	

Meeting purpose	Project Update
	Discussion on the applicant's consultation to date and
	matters relating to land rights and the Environmental
	Impact Assessment (EIA).

The IPC advised on its openness policy, that any s.51 **Summary of** advice will be recorded and placed on our website. This outcomes advice, however, does not constitute as legal advice and the IPC is unable to discuss the merits of a project. The pre-application Commissioner appointed for this project is Jan Bessell. Her role is to support the work of the case teams, the scoping and screening process and add to the overall quality assurance procedures of the IPC. The Project It is National Grids (NG) obligation to connect the proposed 981MW power station at King's Lynn to the transmission network. The nearby 125kV line is at full capacity so to accommodate the proposed power station a link is proposed from the 125kV line to an existing 400kV Associated works, not included within the DCO submission to the IPC, comprise: A Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) to be granted via s36 of Electricity Act 1989 Modifications to the existing Norwich to Warpole

Consultation

400kV line within permitted development.

3 stages of consultation are being undertaken by the applicant.

<u>Stage 1</u> - NG consulted upon 3 corridor options known as west, central and east. Stage 1 consultation took place to establish a preferred corridor route and included:

- Hosting 3 public events between March-April 2010
- Consulting residents within a 1.5km radius
- Attending 3 parish council meetings.

Postcode data used to consult local resident' omitted a property in the east corridor. The applicant advised that the occupant has since been identified and consulted. The occupants and users of a travellers site were consulted; A liaison officer was identified, consultation information was left and the applicant engaged in conversation by knocking door to door.

It was concluded that the east corridor was the preferred option and the use of angle towers (consisting of heavy steelwork) be kept to a minimum.

<u>Stage 2</u> - consultation was undertaken to establish an interim alignment. Activities included:

- The re-issue of the SoCC, describing arrangements for stage 2 & 3 consultation
- Hosting 2 public meetings and 2 community workshops with the use of 3D modelling technology
- Discussion with land owners on their preference of pylon location.

41 parcels of land were identified where access is required. So far a 100% sign up for voluntary access has been achieved.

It was noted that other major projects proposed in the areas have dominated media coverage including a proposed CCGT power station and energy from waste plant.

<u>Stage 3</u> - consultation will identify the recommended alignment through ongoing discussion with land owners and analysis of land and environmental surveys.

Anticipated submission: Q1 2012.

NG indicated that affected parties have been receptive during consultation process therefore an IPC outreach event may not be necessary.

Record of any

The IPC made the following recommendations:

advice given	 NG to provide at least 2 weeks notice of their intention to submit scoping request to the IPC. When sending information electronically, a shape file of the defined route corridor/alignment should be provided. Compulsory acquisition is proposed. This should be made clear in the consultation exercise and clearly expressed as part of the DCO. The applicant may submit a draft DCO for comment and is advised to provide this at least 6 weeks before submission. Advice Note 10 describes the legislative framework and developer obligations under the Habitats Directive. Failure to comply with these obligations could cause difficulty at the acceptance stage. If the Localism Bill gains royal assent slight changes to the primary and secondary legislation will be made. If the application is submitted beyond the designation of the Bill we advise the applicant reviews their submission taking into account any legislative changes and transitional arrangements.
Specific decisions/follow up required?	N/A
Circulation List	All attendees

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