



Meeting note

File reference	EN02008 & EN020010
Status	Final
Author	Sian Thomas
Date	11 September 2015
Meeting with	SP Manweb and National Grid
Venue	Planning Inspectorate Offices, Temple Quay House
Attendees	Katherine King (Case Manager) Nicholas Coombes (Case Manager) Sian Thomas (Assistant Case Officer) David Price (EIA Manager) Matt Durham (Senior Project Manager, National Grid) Eloise Franks (Project Officer, National Grid) Jacqui Fenn (Consents Officer, National Grid) Steven Edwards (Senior Environmental Planner, SP Manweb)
Meeting objectives	SP Manweb & National Grid Update Meeting
Circulation	All above

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that under its openness policy a meeting note would be taken and published on the National Infrastructure pages of the Planning Portal website; including any advice given under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). It was also noted that any such advice would not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) could rely.

SP and National Grid Mid Wales DCO Update

The Inspectorate queried whether there was any impact as a result of the conjoined inquiry into 5 onshore wind farms and one electric line in Mid Wales.

In response, National Grid advised that the Inspector recommended approval for three of the wind farms, however the Secretary of State (SoS) refused permission apart for one (Llandinum). National Grid noted that they still hold a customer connection agreement.

Following the decisions from the conjoined inquiry, SP Manweb advised that a meeting with their customers was due to take place in two weeks time to discuss how to move forward. Following this meeting, it is advised that a further meeting will take place with the Inspectorate to inform on any updates in terms of moving forward with

current and future projects. At present, SP Manweb is taking time to consider the decisions within the conjoined inquiry and to assess the implications that the conjoined inquiry had on future projects.

In terms of the one wind farm application granted permission under the conjoined inquiry; Ty Gwyn, holds its connection agreement with SP Manweb.

SP Manweb stated that they still hold an interest in smaller wind farms that need powering. In terms of future projects coming forward, SP Manweb stated that the current and future 'need' is under review. The current plan for the substation at Cefn Coch will depend on an updated needs case. It was noted by both National Grid and SP Manweb that they were aware of around five or six schemes still in the planning process or planning to submit planning applications. At the present time none of these have received consent. An example of this is Nant y Moch and Mynydd Lluest y Graig wind farm proposals that may require a Development Consent Order connection request in the near future.

Further to the above, SP Manweb has suggested that as a result of the conjoined inquiry, there is the potential for a new Development Consent Order (DCO) to come forward for a connection. The proposal would be located within an area where other connections were likely to go through and it was highlighted by the Inspectorate the importance of assessing the cumulative impact of applications seeking DCO consent; however it is currently too early to speculate.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

- The Inspectorate to send out a New Project Form to both SP Manweb & National Grid.