



Planning Inspectorate Reference No. EN020014

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Author: SP Manweb

Appendix 4.15 – Civil Aviation Authority Statement of Common Ground



29 July 2015

Claire Duffy
SP Manweb PLC
3 Prenton Way
Prenton
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CH43 3ET

Dear Ms Duffy,

North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project - EN020014

SP Manweb Plc

Statement of Common Ground between SP Manweb and Civil Aviation Authority regarding Aviation Safety

I refer to SP Manweb PLC's ("**SP Manweb**") application to the Secretary of State for an order granting development consent ("**Application**") for an approximately 17 kilometre 132kV Overhead Line together with required pedestrian and vehicular accesses, temporary construction compound, construction laydown areas, mitigation planting and other integral works ("**Proposed Development**"). The Secretary of State accepted the Application on 17 April 2015.

SP Manweb and the Civil Aviation Authority ("**CAA**") ("**the Parties**") have agreed to enter into this Statement of Common Ground ("**SOCG**") in respect of the issue of aviation safety as set out in the CAA's relevant representation.

The CAA, in its relevant representation sent to the Planning Inspectorate on 5 May 2015 (Relevant Representation No. 4) states that:

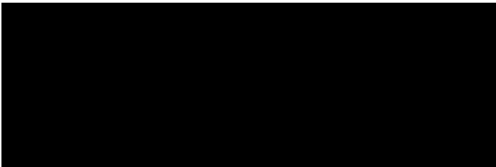
"The proposed overhead line and supporting structures (which, from the documentation provided would appear to have a maximum height of approximately 20m above ground level) would not constitute aviation en-route obstructions for civil aviation purposes. Similarly the proposed sub-stations structure would not constitute en-route obstructions. I have therefore few associated observations other than to highlight that the need for planning deliberations to take into account any relevant aerodrome specific safeguarding issues as dictated by Government Circular 1/2003. Note that responsibility for aerodrome safeguarding rests in all cases with any relevant aerodrome operator not the CAA.

Additionally, I am aware that, in respect of military aviation operations, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has expressed generic concerns associated with overhead power lines. It is consequently possible that the MoD would make recommendation related to the lighting of the towers and marking of the wires. PINS should be aware that in general the CAA would support your effort to clarify the MoD recommendation concerning enhancement to wire conspicuity. Clearly, it is essential that the MoD have been given the opportunity to comment upon the subject application.

As an aside, it should be noted that, the CAA promulgates known power lines which have a height of 80ft or more, drawing information from a Defence Geographic Centre (DGC) database. Any deviation of the existing route should accordingly be notified to the DGC (appropriate contact details - 0208 818 2702, dvofof@mod.uk). Should you have any queries please contact me on the details above."

Subject to the observations set out in the above representations, the CAA has no specific objection or points of disagreement with SP Manweb regarding aviation safety in relation to the application.

On behalf of SP Manweb:



Claire Duffy
*Environmental Planning, SP Energy
Networks for an on behalf of SP
Manweb*

On behalf of Civil Aviation Authority:



Mark Wakeman
*Airspace Regulator
CAA*