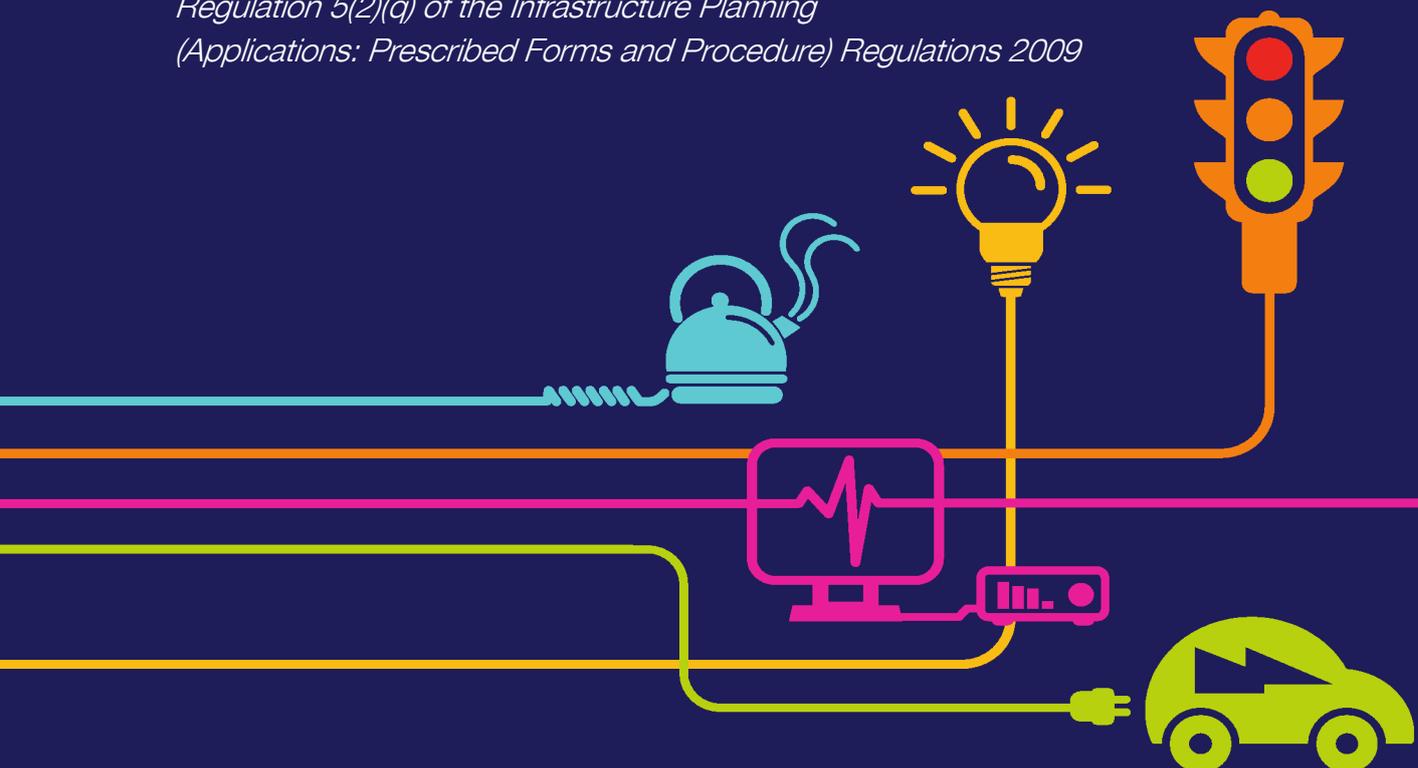


DOCUMENT 5.5

Environmental Statement Chapter 5.5 EIA Consultation

National Grid (North Wales Connection Project)

*Regulation 5(2)(c) of the Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009*



national**grid**

North Wales Connection Project

Volume 5

Document 5.5 Chapter 5 EIA Consultation

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1 Introduction

1.1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 Since 2012 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) has been consulting on the North Wales Connection Project (NWCP). The overall approach to consultation, encompassing Stages One, Two and Three has allowed for public and stakeholder engagement in the design and evolution of the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 Under Part 5, Chapter 2 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 5.1), National Grid has a duty to undertake pre-application consultation on its proposed application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Proposed Development. This consultation has been undertaken in accordance with Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act (Ref 5.1).
- 1.1.3 This Chapter summarises the consultation which has been undertaken to inform the Proposed Development, both statutory and non-statutory, and describes in more detail consultation which has been relevant to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.
- 1.1.4 Further details on the consultation responses received to both the statutory and non-statutory stages of consultation are presented in the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).

1.2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PRIOR TO STAGE ONE CONSULTATION

- 1.2.1 National Grid considered it important to engage with statutory and non-statutory consultees at an early stage in the development of the NWCP.
- 1.2.2 At the commencement of the NWCP, National Grid consulted with selected statutory and non-statutory consultees, including officers from the relevant local authorities. This was to enable a greater understanding of the local area and to develop the best approach to consultation. Those consulted included Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC), Gwynedd Council, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Welsh Assembly Government, Cadw,

National Trust, Environment Agency Wales¹, Countryside Council for Wales² and Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

- 1.2.3 During the period from winter 2011 to summer 2012, early pre-consultation engagement took place with North Wales Members of Parliament and Assembly Members to provide an overview of the background to the Project and why it is needed. During this period, meetings were also held with Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council.
- 1.2.4 Throughout this period National Grid supported Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) with their early public engagements, attending their monthly open surgeries and events across Anglesey and Gwynedd. At the first engagement, in November 2010, National Grid introduced its role in the connection of HNP and National Grid's responsibilities when developing projects to engage communities and follow due process. As part of this early engagement National Grid launched its Project website and issued the first public newsletter.
- 1.2.5 Building on this early stakeholder engagement, National Grid has ensured that relationships with relevant local authorities, statutory consultees and other bodies remained strong by meeting and updating them regularly. National Grid has continued to meet with local authority officers and members from Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council throughout the development of the NWCP, which helped to inform and shape National Grid's approach to the NWCP and to consultation. Further details are provided in sections 3.3 to 3.13 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).

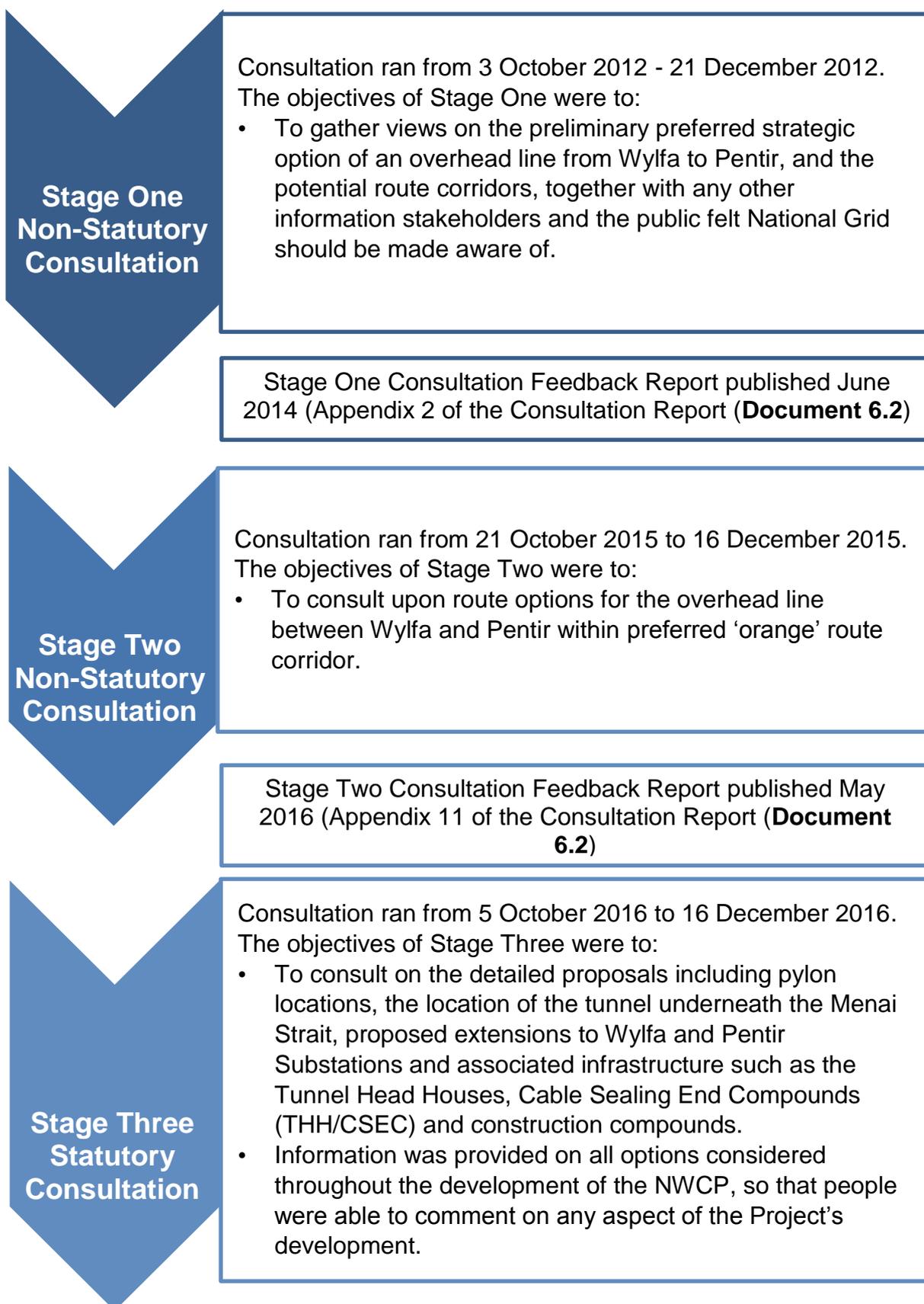
1.3 OVERVIEW OF CONSULTATION

- 1.3.1 Consultation on the Proposed Development commenced in 2012 and was divided into three broad stages as illustrated on **Image 5.1** below:

¹ Now Natural Resources Wales

² Now Natural Resources Wales

Image 5.1 Stages of Consultation on the Proposed Development



1.3.2 Each stage of consultation has informed the development of the NWCP from the Strategic Options considered to the identification of the Proposed Development. Each stage is referred to chronologically as part of the Proposed Development in Chapter 2 Alternatives and Proposed Development History (**Document 5.2**). The following sections provide a summary of these consultation stages; please refer to the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**) for further information on these stages of consultation, consultation feedback provided and how National Grid had regard to the responses received.

1.4 STAGE ONE AND TWO NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

1.4.1 Stages One and Two were non statutory stages of consultation, in that they were voluntary and additional to the prescribed consultation set out in the Act (Ref 5.1). These stages are summarised in sections 1.3.2 – 1.4.6 below.

Stage One

1.4.2 Between 3 October and 21 December 2012, National Grid undertook Stage One Consultation. The aim of the Stage One Consultation was to provide an opportunity to comment on the Strategic Options described in section 2 of Chapter 2 Alternatives and Proposed Development History (**Document 5.2**), and the Route Corridors described in section 3 of Chapter 2 Alternatives and Proposed Development History (**Document 5.2**). Both the Strategic Options Report, October 2012 – republished January 2015 (**Document 7.2**) and the Wylfa to Pentir Overhead Electricity Transmission Line – Route Corridor Identification Report, October 2012 (**Document 9.1**) were used to inform consultees. The full list of materials consulted on during Stage One is set out in section 5 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).

1.4.3 The purpose of the Stage One Consultation was to:

- Explain the background and the need for the Proposed Development;
- Explain the process National Grid used to identify its preliminary preferred strategic option and describe why National Grid considered the preferred strategic option to be the most appropriate option based upon engineering, environmental, economic and community considerations;
- Invite views of statutory and non-statutory consultees, other bodies, the public and local communities about the proposed works and, specifically, views on National Grid’s preliminary option.

- Explain how National Grid identified the route corridor options between Wylfa and Pentir; and
 - Gather views on the preliminary preferred strategic option and route options, together with any information stakeholders and public felt National Grid should be aware of.
- 1.4.4 The feedback received during the Stage One Consultation was used to inform the selection of the Preferred Route Corridor, as set out in the Wylfa to Pentir Preferred Route Corridor Selection Report (**Document 9.2**) published in October 2015 as part of the Stage Two Consultation. A further description of how the feedback received informed the evolution of the Proposed Development is set out in section 3.2 of Chapter 2 Alternatives and Proposed Development History (**Document 5.2**), and in Chapter 5 and Appendix 2 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**)

Stage Two

- 1.4.5 Stage Two Consultation was undertaken between 21 October and 16 December 2015. The aim of the Stage Two Consultation was to provide an opportunity to comment on the route options within the preferred (orange) route corridor and search areas for the sealing end compounds required for the underground crossing at the Menai Strait and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), please refer to section 4.2 of Chapter 2 Alternatives and Proposed Development History (**Document 5.2**). The full list of materials used at Stage Two is set out at Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**) and the Stage Two Consultation Feedback Report is set out in Appendix 11 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.2**).

1.5 STAGE THREE STATUTORY CONSULTATION

- 1.5.1 Stage Three formed the statutory stage of consultation i.e. consultation completed in accordance with the requirements of Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act (Ref 5.1) and ran between the 5 October and the 16 December 2016.
- 1.5.2 Responses received up to and including 6 January 2017 were included within the formal analysis process, to ensure that no postal responses were excluded because of delays in the postal system. Feedback received after 6 January 2017 was reviewed by the NWCP team.
- 1.5.3 Stage Three Consultation included information on the proposed detailed route and the location of pylons, pylon design, the proposed tunnel and extensions to the existing substations at Wylfa and Pentir. It also included temporary works such as construction compounds, bellmouths and access

tracks, construction traffic routes for the delivery of materials and removal of waste, and screening and other mitigation measures. Information was also provided on all options considered throughout the evolution of the Proposed Development, so that people were able to comment on any aspect of the Proposed Development.

- 1.5.4 Stage Three Consultation was completed in accordance with a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (Appendix 32 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.2**)) that was consulted on and agreed with the relevant Local Authorities. Stage Three Consultation was in accordance with Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations 2009 (as amended).
- 1.5.5 More detail on Stage Three Consultation and how the feedback received has been taken in to account is provided in Chapters 7 to 14 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).
- 1.5.6 As part of the statutory consultation there is a requirement to prepare preliminary environmental information, this was produced in the form of a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) for the statutory Stage Three Consultation. The provision of the PEIR was to ensure that those responding to the consultation were able to have regard to the likely environmental issues and effects from the Proposed Development. Feedback received on the PEIR has been used to inform the design of the Proposed Development as described in Chapter 3, Description of the Proposed Development (**Document 5.3**) and Chapter 4, Construction, Operation, Maintenance and Decommissioning of the Proposed Development (**Documents 5.4**) and the EIA. Further information on the PEIR is provided in section 3 of this chapter.

1.6 OTHER ENGAGEMENT

- 1.6.1 Consultation as part of the EIA process is summarised in section 1.6 below and described in the following sections. However, additional consultation outside of the three stages discussed in sections 1.3 and 1.4 above has taken place throughout the development of the Proposed Development including stakeholder and community engagement. Full details of consultation and engagement are provided in the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).

1.7 CONSULTATION AS PART OF THE EIA PROCESS

- 1.7.1 Feedback received from the Public Consultations detailed in sections 1.3.1 to 1.5.6 has been used to inform the EIA. The EIA Consultation has followed the advice of PINS Advice Note Three, EIA Consultation and Notification (Ref 5.2). A number of statutory and non-statutory consultations

have been undertaken as part of the EIA of the Proposed Development. These can be grouped under the following headings:

- EIA Scoping;
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR); and
- Stakeholder Meetings, including a stakeholder review of the draft ES.

1.7.2 Sections 2, 3 and 4 describe how these processes have been used to inform the EIA. Specific details raised during these processes are discussed within section 3 of each of the technical chapters (**Documents 5.7 to 5.18**) and the following Appendices:

- Appendix 5.1 Schedule of Responses to the Secretary of State's Scoping Opinion (**Document 5.5.2.1**);
- Appendix 5.2 Schedule of Responses to the PEIR (**Document 5.3.2.2**); and
- Appendix 5.3 Schedule of Responses to stakeholder review of the draft ES (**Document 5.5.2.3**).

2 EIA Scoping

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 The process of scoping helps to ensure that the topics covered, the baseline information used, and the methods of assessment, are appropriate, and have taken into account the views of consultees and decision makers, where appropriate.
- 2.1.2 There are two main stages in the scoping process. Firstly, the applicant compiles information to inform a view as to the scope of issues that should be covered in the main Environmental Statement (ES); this usually takes the form of a Scoping Report and is based on initial consultation, data searches and baseline surveys, as appropriate. The second stage in the scoping process is for the Secretary of State (SoS) to issue a Scoping Opinion, outlining what they expect to be covered in the ES, having consulted a range of statutory bodies, and taken into account the information provided by the applicant in their Scoping Report.
- 2.1.3 The following sections describe the scoping process for the Proposed Development.

2.2 SCOPING REPORT

- 2.2.1 The first stage of the scoping exercise culminates in the preparation of a 'Scoping Report' by the applicant. The Scoping Report covers the topics to be assessed, the study areas under consideration and the methods for assessing potential effects, including the methods used for defining the baseline situation.
- 2.2.2 The process of scoping and the preparation of a 'Scoping Report' is the main mechanism for determining the 'scope' of the EIA e.g. content and assessment methods. The main objectives of the Scoping Report were therefore to:
- Identify areas of likely environmental significance and highlight issues;
 - Identify the topics and issues to be the focus of the EIA, and those that do not need to be addressed;

- Define the technical, spatial and temporal scope of the study for each of the topics and issues to be considered;
- Define the approach and methodologies for conducting baseline studies;
- Define the approach and methodologies for predicting environmental effects and for evaluating the significance of both adverse and beneficial environmental effects;
- Identify the methods to be adopted for incorporating mitigation and other environmentally driven modifications into the design;
- Define the consultation strategy to be applied to the EIA process; and
- Invite consultees to comment on the Proposed Development, to comment on the proposed EIA scope and methodology and to provide and receive information relevant to the Proposed Development.

2.2.3 The North Wales Connection Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report (Ref 5.3) was provided to the Planning Inspectorate on 20 May 2016, under Regulation 8 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/2263) ('the 2009 Regulations') (Ref 5.4).

2.1 THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S CONSULTATION

2.1.1 The Secretary of State (SoS) has a duty under Regulation 8(6) of the EIA Regulations (Ref 5.4) to consult widely before adopting a Scoping Opinion. A full list of the consultation bodies is provided in Appendix 2 of the Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5). The list was compiled by the SoS under their duty to notify consultees in accordance with Regulation 9(1)(a).

2.1.2 The SoS has taken into account the responses received in forming the Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5).

2.2 SCOPING OPINON

2.2.1 In response to the Scoping Report, the Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5) was received by National Grid on 1 July 2016, which provided comments from the SoS on the proposed scope of the EIA, and included copies of responses from the Consultation as prescribed in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (Ref 5.7). In forming their Scoping Opinion the SoS has taken account of:

- The 2009 EIA Regulations (Ref 5.4);
- The nature and scale of the Proposed Development;
- The nature of the receiving environment; and
- Current best practice in the preparation of Environmental Statements.

2.2.2 In forming their Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5) the SoS has also taken account of responses received from statutory consultees.

2.2.3 The Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5) included specific comments on the approach to the ES and topic areas set out in the Scoping Report (Ref 5.3). Section 3 of each of the technical chapters (**Documents 5.7 to 5.18**) of this ES detail how these specific comments have been taken into account in the preparation of the individual Chapters. Appendix 5.1 (**Document 5.5.2.1**) collates these responses into a summary table to demonstrate how the assessment has taken account of the Scoping Opinion (Ref 5.5).

3 Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 As part of the 2009 EIA Regulations (Ref 5.4), there is a requirement to prepare Preliminary Environmental Information. This was done in the form of a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (Ref 5.6). The PEIR (Ref 5.6) provides a snapshot of the environmental information available at the relevant time (in this case at Stage Three statutory consultation). The type of information required is the same as that required under Schedule 4 of the 2009 EIA Regulations (Ref 5.4), albeit that as the information is “preliminary”, it is limited to that what is available at the relevant time. The purpose of providing this information is to ensure that those responding to the consultation are able to have regard to the likely environmental issues and effects arising from the Proposed Development.

3.1.2 Notice of Preliminary Environmental Information under Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations (Ref 5.4) was given to consultation bodies together with notice under Section 48 of the Act in letters sent to those bodies as prescribed consultees under Section 42 and as listed in the Regulation 9 List (Ref 5.4) (Appendix 21 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.2**)) on the 5 October 2016. A copy of the letter sent to prescribed consultees is provided in Appendices 16, 17 and 18 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.2**). The information was published to help the stakeholders/consultees and the local communities to understand the likely significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development. The PEIR (Ref 5.6) was part of Volume 2 and consisted of:

- 2.4.1 PEIR Non-Technical Summary;
- 2.4.2 PEIR (the main report);
- 2.4.3 PEIR Figures;
- 2.4.4 PEIR Appendices; and
- 2.4.5 PEIR Photomontages.

3.2 PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REPORT (PEIR)

3.2.1 The main information in the PEIR (Ref 5.6) was included in a chapter for each environmental topic area. The chapter illustrated the environmental baseline and the potential environmental effects that could be experienced by receptors. The purpose of the chapters was to allow stakeholders to identify the issues of importance to them and to see how they were being addressed. The following technical chapters were included:

- Chapter 6: Landscape Assessment;
- Chapter 7: Visual Assessment;
- Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation;
- Chapter 9: Historic Environment;
- Chapter 10: Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions;
- Chapter 11: Water Quality, Resources and Flood Risk;
- Chapter 12: Traffic and Transport;
- Chapter 13: Air Quality;
- Chapter 14: Construction Noise and Vibration;
- Chapter 15: Operational Noise;
- Chapter 16: Socio Economics;
- Chapter 17: Agriculture;
- Chapter 18: Intra-Project Effects;
- Chapter 19: Inter-Project Effects; and
- Chapter 20: Statement of Combined Effects with the Wider Works.

3.3 RESPONSES TO THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION

3.3.1 A list of bodies which responded under Section 42, for Stage Three Statutory Consultation are listed in Table 5.1.

Table 5. 1 Section 42 Respondents	
Section 42 Prescribed Consultees	Section 42 – Local Authorities Prescribed under Section 43 of the Act
Dee Valley Water	Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC)
Element Power Ireland Limited	Gwynedd Council
Equality and Human Rights Commission	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Horizon Nuclear Power Services Limited	Denbighshire County Council
Joint Nature Conservation Commission	
Magnox	
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	
National Grid Gas	
Natural Resources Wales	
NATS En-Route Safeguarding	
Network Rail	
North Wales Fire and Rescue Service	
North Wales Police	
Public Health England	
Public Health Wales	
Royal Commission On Ancient and Historical Monuments Of Wales	
Royal Mail Group Limited	
Sargas Power Yorkshire Limited	
SP Energy Networks	
Scottish Power Renewables	
The Coal Authority	

Table 5. 1 Section 42 Respondents	
Section 42 Prescribed Consultees	Section 42 – Local Authorities Prescribed under Section 43 of the Act
The Health and Safety Executive	
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency	
United Utilities Water Limited	
Wales and West Utilities	
Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust	
Welsh Government	
Community Councils	
Beaumaris Town Council*	
Cwm Cadnant Community Council	
Llanbadrig Community Council	
Llaneilian Community Council	
Llanfairpwll Community Council	
Llanfair Yn Neubwll Community Council*	
Llannerchymedd Community Council	
Llanfihangelesceifiog Community Council	
Llanidan Community Council	
Mechell Community Council	
North Anglesey Council's Partnership*	
One Voice Wales Pylon Committee*	
OVW Arfon Dwyfor Area Committee*	
Penmynydd Community Council	
Pentraeth Community Council	
Pentir And Y Felinheli Community Council	
Rhosybol Community Council	
Trewalchmai Community Council*	

Table 5. 1 Section 42 Respondents	
Section 42 Prescribed Consultees	Section 42 – Local Authorities Prescribed under Section 43 of the Act
Trearddur Community Council *	
Tref Amlwch Community Council	
*These are not prescribed consultees as the Proposed Development is not located within these community councils or a neighbouring authority, but have responded to the Stage Three Statutory Consultation.	

3.3.2 In addition to Table 5.1 above, feedback was received from organisations that do not fall within the classification of prescribed consultees under the Planning Act 2008 (Ref 5.1).

- Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (Anglesey Branch);
- Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (Caernarfonshire Branch);
- Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (Conwy Branch);
- Grwp Llandrillo Menai;
- Menai Science Park (M-SParc);
- Ministry of Defence;
- National Farmers Union Cymru;
- National Trust;
- North Wales Wildlife Trust;
- Orthios Group Holdings Ltd;
- People against Wylfa B (PAWB);
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds;
- The Snowdonia Society; and
- The Woodland Trust Wales.

3.3.3 A number of the Section 42 consultees provided responses in relation to the PEIR (Ref 5.6). These were, IACC, Gwynedd Council, National Resource

Wales (NRW), Welsh Government, National Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, North Wales Police, One Voice Wales, Public Health England, Public Health Wales, The Coal Authority. The following sections below provide a summary of the detailed responses shown in Appendix 5.2 Schedule of Responses to the PEIR (**Document 5.5.2.2**) and are presented in the order shown in Appendix 5.2 Schedule of Responses to the PEIR (**Document 5.5.2.2**).

Isle of Anglesey County Council

- 3.3.4 IACC considered that the ES, its emerging outcomes, required mitigation measures and associated management plans should be consulted on with IACC prior to the submission of the DCO.
- 3.3.5 IACC advised that the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be a live document which is supplemented with project-specific measures in accordance with the findings of the EIA and be secured by way of DCO requirement. IACC also considered that the CEMP should contain project-specific noise and air quality mitigation measures consistent with best practice, specifically in respect of the Energy Plant. IACC listed several proposed construction noise mitigation measures it expects within the CEMP (or Noise and Vibration Management Plan) including need for pro-active community liaison, mechanisms for monitoring construction effects, an emphasis on logistics, fencing and other means of enclosure, a commitment to an off-site mitigation programme, and a Noise Insulation and Temporary Re-Housing Policy.
- 3.3.6 IACC also considered that there is potential scope for compensation measures and enhancement opportunities to achieve wider benefits.
- 3.3.7 IACC stated that *“further assessment of impacts associated with tunnel construction and spoil arising is required”*, including further definition of the treatment of spoil and inclusion of intra-project effects arising from spoil treatment. IACC welcomed provision of the Materials Management Plan.
- 3.3.8 In relation to the Wales Coastal Path and Public Rights of Way (PRoW), IACC considered it necessary to assess the safety of PRoW users along the Wales Coastal Path that mitigation proposals for PRoWs and Sustrans routes are discussed with the IACC and Sustrans. IACC suggested that *“the establishment of a new section of the Wales Coast Path along the coast through Plas Newydd land should be investigated as mitigation”*.

- 3.3.9 Regarding landscape and visual IACC deemed that off-site mitigation measures would be “needed to enhance the surrounding landscape and to screen and/or improve views towards the proposed development” and to “enhance PRow user experience” where on-site mitigation is not possible.
- 3.3.10 IACC considered that secondary landscape mitigation within the Order Limits would be required. In situ replacement planting as mitigation should be the first priority where possible and that off-site replacement planting should be carried out as close to the site of loss as possible.
- 3.3.11 With regards to ecology and nature conservation IACC advised that consultation on the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) should be undertaken with NRW and IACC to ensure mitigation measures set out are adequate and highlights potential impacts upon the Menai Strait & Conwy Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and hydrological impacts on the Anglesey Fens SAC.
- 3.3.12 IACC deemed that the ES should contain full baseline results in order to properly assess the impacts to County Wildlife Sites and Section 42 Priority Habitats, impacts to legally protected and Section 42 Priority Species and impacts from bird collisions with overhead lines (OHLs) / structures.
- 3.3.13 IACC considered that for the historic environment it is vital a programme of archaeological surveys are undertaken at the earliest opportunity to enable combined effects to be considered, assessed and mitigated appropriately.
- 3.3.14 IACC advised that “enhancements should be considered wherever there is an unmitigated residual impact” and “wherever there are opportunities to strengthen landscape or historic asset character, reinforce a sense of place or shift the visual emphasis away from the overhead infrastructure”.
- 3.3.15 IACC considered that the viewpoints in the Visual Impact Assessment do not appear to meet the needs of the setting impact assessment and that bespoke visualisations need to be created to illustrate the way the proposals might impact on particular elements of the settings of historic assets.
- 3.3.16 With regards to groundwater, IACC stated this should be included in the hydrology chapter and highlights the presence of some areas where groundwater receptors are of high importance. IACC welcomed commitments to pollution control, inspections and incident procedures including a Pollution Incident Control Plan and advised that not all private supplies may be registered and consultation should be undertaken with potentially affected landowners.

- 3.3.17 Regarding Geology, Hydrology and Ground Conditions IACC stated that for the tunnel the ES considered how much excavated material would be generated, its properties, where it will be deposited and that these details would also need to address the recovered use and disposal of the excavated material.
- 3.3.18 IACC stated that the ES will require evidence to support the assessment of the significance of effects reported which as a minimum, should be provided through the Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment and Flood Consequence Assessment (FCA).
- 3.3.19 With regards to the Traffic and Transport the PEIR Chapter (Chapter 12) IACC provided commentary on the Menai Strait Crossing, and consider that a Traffic Management Area Plan would be required. IACC state that they have concerns on the Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) regarding use of unsuitable roads, increase in uncontrolled traffic numbers and issues such as road safety concerns. IACC advised that a comprehensive and robust CTMP for the Proposed Development should be submitted for review and approval by IACC prior to inclusion in the ES.
- 3.3.20 IACC considers that an agreement on the transport assessment methodology should be sought with IACC prior to its undertaking as IACC deemed that for the transport assessment *“traffic flow increase should be assessed as an hourly increase in HGV traffic, rather than the vehicle Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)”* and that *“any vehicle over 3.5 tonnes should not be classed as a Light Vehicle”*..
- 3.3.21 IACC stated that *“all construction traffic routes are to be agreed with the IACC”* and provided a list of unsuitable routes/bellmouths proposed for use to construct the Proposed Development.
- 3.3.22 Regarding air quality and emissions IACC considered that the inter annual variability should be tested by using at least three years’ worth of meteorological data and advised that consultation on the assessment and proposed mitigation for the energy plant should be undertaken.
- 3.3.23 With regards to noise and vibration IACC agreed that the construction assessment of piling noise/vibration for OHL pylons is appropriate for the EIA and requested a comprehensive design and assurance process to ensure that significant effects are avoided from the Tunnel Head Houses (THH).
- 3.3.24 Specifically for operational noise and vibration IACC welcomed the *“statement that the additive effects of current and future lines will be*

considered, particularly because of the issue of transpositions and potentially noisier lines replacing existing lines”.

- 3.3.25 Regarding socio-economics IACC’s comments were split into employment and skills, supply chain and tourism. As part of their comments on employment and skills IACC considered that the skills profile and number of local jobs has not been defined and that analysis should be undertaken on the potential negative employment effects if demand for local employment is already taken up by existing projects. In addition, IACC suggested mitigation measures such as a Workforce Strategy, a Procurement Strategy and the investment into training provision and new training facilities should be developed for the Proposed Development.
- 3.3.26 IACC’s comments on the supply chain stated that more clarity was required regarding access to jobs and the procurement process. IACC believed that insufficient information on the exact number of opportunities available is provided, although IACC acknowledge elements of the Proposed Development are specialised in nature they expect to capture the maximum number of local opportunities for less specialised contracts. In addition, IACC suggested mitigation measures such as a Supply Chain Charter, and further assessment to identify the number of local/non-local construction jobs which it deemed should be developed for the Proposed Development.
- 3.3.27 Regarding tourism IACC considered that tourism was not investigated in sufficient depth and detail, a more robust evidence base is required and that additional analysis on occupancy levels for worker accommodation is required. IACC deemed that a number of tourism related issues need appropriate assessment as it was not clear the extent of impacts on the tourism sector and other sectors of central importance to the tourism sector and wider economy. IACC expected the potential impact on image and perception of Anglesey to be included and that coastal path around Anglesey should be scoped within the ES. In addition, IACC suggested mitigation measures should be developed for the Proposed Development such as further work to identify areas significantly impacted and identifying linkages between issues and areas affected as a basis for mitigation measures.
- 3.3.28 Regarding Land Use and Agriculture IACC considered that all farms affected should be assessed for disruption individually, ensuring the relevant enterprise is identified and that an exercise to compile an accurate and up to date database of existing farm uses should be undertaken.
- 3.3.29 With regards to cumulative effects IACC deemed that further mitigation may be required particularly for construction disturbance intra-project effects on

local receptors and that further consultation on the assessment methodology, assessment outcomes and any mitigation for cumulative effects should be undertaken.

- 3.3.30 IACC considered that the key cumulative issues include “*potential economic and employment opportunities afforded to the local workforce and businesses*” and that cumulative visualisations are required to enable IACC to reach conclusions on the effects upon local communities, the AONB and other designated sites. IACC also stated that the Welsh Language should be included in the cumulative effects assessment.

Gwynedd Council

- 3.3.31 Regarding Landscape and Visual Gwynedd Council advised that the ES assessment should be clear how temporary and permanent vegetation loss as a result of the construction activity would be considered; the short, medium and long term nature of these effects; whether restoration is considered as mitigation and, if so, whether this is for construction or operational effects. Gwynedd Council also considered that landscape mitigation is “*particularly important in the sensitive landscape around the Menai Strait and around ancillary infrastructure such as SECs and Substations*” and that the ES should consult LANDMAP information and more recent work incorporated into the process of preparing the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Local Development Plan.
- 3.3.32 Gwynedd Council advised that the Residential Amenity Assessment methodology should be consulted on and Gwynedd Council suggested that additional receptors including outdoor recreational sports receptors and anglers amongst others should be included.
- 3.3.33 Regarding housing, the Welsh language and social and community matters Gwynedd Council advised that the assessment of impact on local economy “*needs to be more holistic including secondary impacts of infrastructure construction works, the lack of construction workers’ availability with the right skills locally, and consideration of supply chain / workforce development and procurement strategies*”. Gwynedd Council also stated that they consider a Supply Chain Strategy/Workforce Development Strategy and Procurement Strategy essential and that the ES needs to include details about how it is intended to meet workers’ accommodation needs and the impact on the Welsh language and culture of the area.
- 3.3.34 Gwynedd Council considered that there is a lack of baseline information and supportive evidence on ecological and ground condition matters and further evidence is required on water quality, resources and flood risks to support

assessments and conclusions. Gwynedd Council advised that groundwater abstractions and private water supplies should be included in the definition of water resources receptors and considers that the interrelationship between the chapters such as geology, hydrogeology, ground conditions, water quality and flood risk, ecology and material resources is essential. Gwynedd Council also advised of the importance of the WFD and FCA and also on the use of the new Scottish Natural Heritage guidance on avian collision and OHLs (Ref 5.8).

- 3.3.35 Regarding the historic environment Gwynedd Council advised that priority must be given to undertaking relevant surveys with regards to the historic environment and archaeology to supplement the baseline conditions. Gwynedd Council also considered that where the impacts upon the setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments at Fodol Ganol Enclosed Hut Group (CN175), Coed Nant-Y-Garth, standing stone (CN375) and potentially on the setting of the Vaynol Grade I Registered Park and Gardens cannot be ameliorated by design, appropriate mitigation should be introduced to screen the impacts.
- 3.3.36 Gwynedd Council welcomed the construction of a tunnel across the Menai Strait but advised that movement of the proposed Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) and the possible movement associated with the removal of excavated materials from tunnelling operations requires careful consideration within the ES. Gwynedd Council also considers that additional mitigation for the tunnelling compound would be required especially regarding any above ground night-time activity.
- 3.3.37 Gwynedd Council welcomed the provision of the Materials Management Plan (MMP) and considered it essential to managing anticipated spoil arising. Gwynedd Council deemed that a steering group should be formed regarding the anticipated spoil arising and that the ES will need to address disposal, treatment, management of the spoil/excavated material arising from tunnel construction, including the potential reuse on the Proposed Development and on possible third party sites. Gwynedd Council also considered that the storage of spoil arising should be addressed within the LVIA and that the ecological impact of the tunnel spoil should be assessed in the ES.
- 3.3.38 With regards to traffic and transport Gwynedd Council welcomed the discussions to fully develop to the scope of the Traffic Assessment and supported the approach that the traffic and transport assessment should assume all spoil must be removed from site in order to provide a worst-case transport assessment. Gwynedd Council believed that the Zone of Influence (ZoI) should remain under review, the National Traffic Model Traffic Growth

Calculation should be used to derive traffic growth forecasts and advised that proposed routing of movements of spoil would be of key interest to Gwynedd Council.

- 3.3.39 Gwynedd Council welcomed the commitment to, where possible, completely avoid sensitive receptors and links deemed unable to facilitate a high number of Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements, and where unavoidable would be subject to additional mitigation.
- 3.3.40 Regarding air quality Gwynedd Council agreed that any opening year assessment of road traffic impacts should be undertaken using emission factors and background data at baseline levels but recommended that Gwynedd Council collected Nitrogen Dioxide, under LAQM, in two locations within the vicinity of the Proposed Development and that this should be used within the ES. Gwynedd Council advised that the lower World Health Organisation (WHO) Annual Objective of 10 ug/m³ should be used for assessing health impacts and recommended the use of Particulate Monitors to monitor PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} as mitigation measures. Gwynedd Council considered that where an assessment of the energy plant is required, sensitivity testing using at least three years of meteorological data should be undertaken to account for inter-annual variability.
- 3.3.41 Gwynedd Council welcomed that baseline noise measurement locations and appropriate baseline would be the subject of consultation and welcomed the references to WHO Night Noise Guidelines (NNG). Gwynedd Council advised that the ES should clearly identify the sensitivity of receptors and methods used to identify likely significant effects for construction and operational noise and that the ES should identify how the Proposed Development would satisfy noise objectives promoted by the Welsh Government and should consider not just the worst case level, but also the number of receptors affected.
- 3.3.42 With regards to potential cumulative effects Gwynedd Council considered the potential cumulative impacts of the Wylfa Newydd Power Station project construction, decommissioning of the existing Wylfa Nuclear Power Station and the A55 third Menai Crossing need careful consideration in the ES. Gwynedd Council considered that the availability of accommodation for workers, particularly in combination with the impact of the construction of Wylfa Newydd Power Station project needs careful consideration in the ES and that cumulative effects assessment should make reference to the wider health impact assessment.
- 3.3.43 Mitigation was a key theme throughout the Gwynedd Council response. Gwynedd Council believed the preparation of a mitigation strategy

explaining mitigation measures and how to realise them is crucial and that appropriate mitigation measures within and outside the Order Limits are required to mitigate all impacts of the Proposed Development. Gwynedd Council also advised that mitigation measures presented on a receptor by receptor basis may overlook location-specific measures and considers enhancement opportunities to be important aspects of the Proposed Development.

- 3.3.44 Gwynedd Council advised that the CEMP should be a live document, consulted upon, updated and refined in line with lessons learned from other major infrastructure projects and the emerging outcomes of the EIA. Gwynedd Council also commented upon several specific aspects of the CEMP, and its associated detailed method statements and management plans, including the proposed construction working hours, limitations on noisy activities (such as piling), the Transport Management Plan, project-specific noise and air quality mitigation measures and issues surrounding potential mitigation of setting impacts on archaeological sites or monuments.
- 3.3.45 Gwynedd Council advised that it may be necessary to secure a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and welcome clarity on this requirement to ensure that appropriate licences are obtained.

National Resource Wales

- 3.3.46 The NRW response focused on nine points: Landscape and Visual; Ecology and Nature Conservation; Geology, Hydrogeology and Groundwater Protection; Water Quality, Resources and Flood Risk; Air Quality; Noise and Vibration; CEMP, Cumulative Effects and Other Consenting Regimes.
- 3.3.47 Regarding the Landscape and Visual chapters NRW were satisfied with the Landscape and Visual scope, methodology, comprehensive range of viewpoints, and baseline survey representation of the study area but advised that the special qualities of Mynydd Bodafon should be clearly set out within the ES, the intervisibility with the Snowdonia National Park should be described where the Snowdonia skyline forms a distinctive backdrop and would welcome the ES differentiating between the two types of visual effect for views of the Snowdonia Skyline from Anglesey.
- 3.3.48 NRW considered that the preliminary assessment of development effects accord with their understanding of the likely issues at the Stage Three Consultation and that there is potential for localised effects on the setting of the Ynys Mon AONB in Section A (seen within the context of the proposed Wylfa Newydd Power Station project) and Section C. NRW consider that

there is potential for an intensification of development within the Snowdonia skyline in Section D and Section F.

- 3.3.49 NRW advised that the ES should make clear how specific areas will be targeted to help strengthen the landscape setting of the designated landscapes where development effects have been assessed, NRW also identified several mitigation measures, detailed in full within Appendix 5.2 Schedule of Responses to the PEIR (**Document 5.5.2.2**) which it considers essential to realise and secure the essential mitigation requirements of the Proposed Development.
- 3.3.50 Regarding Ecology and Nature Conservation, NRW advised that as the Proposed Development has possible implications for SAC, Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar sites and an HRA should be undertaken with the scope and HRA report consulted upon at the earliest convenience.
- 3.3.51 With regards to protected sites NRW advised that the HRA and ES identify and assess all statutory designated ecological sites, possible impact pathways and full details of the appropriate mitigation and/or compensation measures. The NRW response also provides detailed comments on the potential impacts upon the Llyn Alaw Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Corsydd Mon SAC, Corsydd Mon a Llyn Ramsar and Cors Erddreiniog SSSI, Caeau Talwrn SSSI (Part of Corsydd Mon SAC), Tre Gof SSSI, Llyn Hafodol and Cors Glegyrog SSSI.
- 3.3.52 Regarding protected species NRW noted that they were satisfied with the survey proposals set out in the PEIR in respect of protected species and that the ES should clearly identify all likely effects on protected species and where required propose and deliver appropriate mitigation and/or compensation schemes to ensure no detrimental impact on European Protected Species. In addition, NRW recommended that National Grid liaise with Horizon regarding available data and when developing mitigation proposals for protected species NRW considered that the ES should include details of the scope of an Ecological Compliance Audit and a Legislation Compliance Audit, which identifies and provides evidence of how the Proposed Development has considered all relevant legislation and ecological avoidance relating to Protected Species.
- 3.3.53 With regards to Geology and Hydrogeology NRW acknowledged that an Intrusive Site Investigation is to be carried out in potential contaminated areas and advised that the Proposed Development should take into account the Environment Agency's Groundwater Protection: Principles and practice (GP3) (Ref 5.9). NRW also identified that the ES should include the potential pollution of controlled waters.

- 3.3.54 NRW advised that a generic 50 m Source Protection Zone (SPZ1) is assumed and operated around all private groundwater abstractions and that the ES should assess potential effects on private water supplies both public and private.
- 3.3.55 NRW considered that groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE) should be identified along with their status within the ES.
- 3.3.56 NRW welcomed the mitigation measures proposed in Chapter 10 (Geology, Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions) of the PEIR but considered that additional monitoring of sensitive ecological sites and public water supplies, if identified as being at risk, may be required.
- 3.3.57 NRW acknowledged that Ground Investigation Studies are to be undertaken to inform the tunnel design and advised that the ES should include full details of the tunnel design and construction method and consider that the core across the Menai Strait may well be unique and invaluable for geological research in the area.
- 3.3.58 Regarding Water Quality, NRW considered that the ES and CEMP should include a robust strategy to demonstrate that run off from the construction phase for access is to be controlled.
- 3.3.59 With regards to flood risk NRW acknowledged that a drainage assessment would be provided for the THHs due to the impermeable areas. This is further supported by the likely effects associated with the tracks as considered in the FCA and reported in the ES.
- 3.3.60 NRW advised that the ES needs to make reference to Planning Policy Wales and the Technical Advice Notes, and should recognise that both upstream and downstream flood risk should be assessed when considering climate change and that de-watering should also be included under the Flood Risk Section. In addition, NRW confirmed that the route/pylons are not expected to consider flooding from the Alaw and Cefni Reservoirs and NRW advised that temporary bridge and culvert crossings on designated main rivers should be able to pass the design flood event (1% AEP with allowance for climate change).
- 3.3.61 Regarding the WFD NRW considered that the Anglesey groundwater body GB41002G206200 (Ynys Mon Eastern Carboniferous limestone) is unlikely to relate to this Proposed Development and that the ES should include, or justify the exclusion of Priority Hazardous Substances, Priority Substances, and Specific Pollutants. NRW advised that the Unnamed to Menai Strait south WFD water body (GB110065058490) has been renamed to 'Nant Y Garth waterbody'.

- 3.3.62 NRW believed that the ES should include reference to bathing water quality and that the scope of the FCA and WFD Assessments is discussed with NRW prior to its preparation.
- 3.3.63 With regards to dust NRW advised that the ES should consider, and confirm, whether the dust control measures are sufficient to avoid dust deposition at ecological designated sites at specified deposition rates.
- 3.3.64 Regarding construction phase energy plant emissions NRW considered that the ES should assess impacts of air pollution and dust on protected sites and expect an assessment of the predicted pollution against relevant nitrogen critical loads and pollution critical levels for any affected designated sites. NRW advise that an additional Objective Value ($10\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) is required for the protection of sensitive lichens within any protected site (Ref 5.10).
- 3.3.65 NRW agreed that *“a quantitative dust assessment will be undertaken if vehicle movement increase over the stated amount”* and consider that the impact of traffic emissions and pollutants to ecological designated sites should be assessed based on the amount of pollutant that is predicted to land on the site.
- 3.3.66 NRW advised that the principles and thresholds described in the GOV.UK (Ref 5.11) *“Air emissions risk assessment for your environmental permit”* are applicable to any pollutant source, including road traffic, and consider that if a change in pollution is below 1% of the relevant Environmental Assessment Level it can be concluded not to have a significant effect alone or in combination.
- 3.3.67 NRW advised that the ES in support of the DCO should fully assess both construction and decommissioning impacts of noise and vibration on ecological receptors and on the special qualities of the Anglesey AONB and detail any required mitigation and/or compensation measures.
- 3.3.68 NRW advised that the ES needs to include a *“comprehensive and site specific CEMP”* addressing all relevant environmental issues and identify methods of working in line with best practice to ensure environmental safeguards are in place.
- 3.3.69 NRW considered that the impacts of waste generated during both the construction and decommissioning phases should be fully assessed in the ES and that the limited number of permitted waste sites within the vicinity of the Proposed Development area should be considered when assessing the type and volume of generated waste. NRW advised that waste type and volume may impact on the transport strategy and assessments of traffic volumes.

- 3.3.70 Regarding the Cumulative Effects NRW agreed that *“that the individual technical chapters in the ES should report on the specific effects on each shared receptor”* to be reported into a separate full Intra-Project CEA chapter and advised that the status of some projects identified within the PEIR Inter-Project Chapter (Chapter 19) will require updating in the ES.
- 3.3.71 Regarding Other Consenting Regimes, NRW recommended National Grid to contact the Marine Licensing Team under Marine Licensing Regulations (Ref 5.12) and that the UK Marine Policy Statement (Ref 5.13) should be considered as relevant policy for the aspects of the works in the UK marine area. NRW advised that certain parts of the proposals may need an Environmental Permit under the Environmental Permit Regulations (EPR) 2010 (Ref 5.14) and that NRW written consent or registration for exemption would be required which must be obtained prior to works progressing on site.

Welsh Government

- 3.3.72 Responses from the Welsh Government were received from the Welsh Government First Minister and Welsh Government Official policy leads from relevant departments.
- 3.3.73 The Welsh Government response focused on six topics including transport, tourism, agricultural land classification, the historic environment, housing and the Welsh language. For each topic Welsh Government identified the issues that it considered should be investigated/addressed, the nature of the impact, provided potential means of addressing/mitigating the impact and detailed relevant national and local planning policy and Well Being for Future Generations Act goals.
- 3.3.74 Welsh Government considered the main issues for transport to include construction traffic and proposed works affecting the trunk road network, delivery of Abnormal Loads and the use of the trunk road network, and the environmental impacts of proposed works upon designated sites when considering the A55 Design Build Finance Operation (DBFO) across Anglesey. Welsh Government also advised on several potential means of addressing/mitigating the impacts from these issues.
- 3.3.75 Welsh Government deemed that the main issues for tourism to include the nature of business surveys being a ‘moment in time’, the pressure to the accommodation stocks, A55 traffic problems impacting visitor experience and perceptions of North Wales, the tourism effects on the wider area of North Wales and the value of the tourism sector to North Wales.

- 3.3.76 With regards to Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), Welsh Government agreed that the 20 hectare (ha) threshold for Best Most Versatile (BMV) loss represented a nationally significant loss and advised that avoidance of BMV is preferred noting that the reasons for selecting BMV sites should be clearly set out and considered against national planning policy in the ES.
- 3.3.77 The Welsh Government response on the Historic Environment was provided by CADW. Regarding potential impacts upon Scheduled Monuments CADW considered that careful consideration of infrastructure locations, mitigation measures, bespoke visualisations for the settings of historic assets and precise level of impact should be fully assessed in the ES. CADW also advised that the value of AN002 Bryn-Celli Ddu Burial Chamber should be considered as an asset of acknowledged international importance and that appropriate enhancement proposals should be considered as part of the Proposed Development.
- 3.3.78 Regarding Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Historic Landscape, CADW considered that the new planting around the THHs and Cable Sealing End Compounds (CSECs) should not be incongruous with the local landscape due to the vicinity of the Plas Newydd and Vaynol Estate and advised that the Assessment of the Significant of Impact of Development on Historical Landscapes methodology should be used in the ES.
- 3.3.79 Welsh Government considered that the main issues for housing were the additional demand placed by the Proposed Development and the Wylfa Newydd Project, and that the Proposed Development needs to take full consideration of the linguistic nature of the area and ensure a Welsh Language Impact Assessment is carried out.

National Trust

- 3.3.80 The National Trust response was specific to its land ownership interest primarily relating to land in North Anglesey and in the Menai Strait at Plas Newydd and Faenol. National Trust was satisfied that adequate information was provided in the PEIR in relation to National Trust assets at Plas Newydd and Faenol and welcomed the tunnel solution to cross the Menai Strait.
- 3.3.81 National Trust considered that more detail on landscape and visual impacts is required within the ES for the construction of access and visibility splays at the Braint CSEC and the implications for tourism and visitors to Plas Newydd during tunnel construction.

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

- 3.3.82 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) advised that a small wintering population of Greenland white-fronted geese have established on Anglesey within the study area and that RSPB considers that the presence and impact should be considered in the ES. RSPB are pleased to see mitigation and enhancement being explored and consider that farmland managed under agri-environmental schemes should be identified, and considered, as an opportunity to further reduce the impact on waders and other ground nesting birds. RSPB also reiterated their comments made at Stage Two Consultations that the Proposed Development must demonstrate that there will be no significant adverse impact upon designated sites, and important populations of bird species.

Snowdonia National Park Authority

- 3.3.83 Snowdonia National Park Authority acknowledged the efforts to reduce the visual and landscape impacts on the Anglesey AONB and welcomes proposals to underground the cable beneath the Menai Straits. Snowdonia National Park Authority considered that the Proposed Development has the potential to impact the broader landscape setting of the Snowdonia National Park, could adversely impact landscape and designated areas, and in combination with onshore windfarms and individual wind turbines currently proposed could harm views of the Snowdonia Mountains and Llyn AONB hills.

Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales

- 3.3.84 The response from Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) predominantly focuses on the landscape issues surrounding the Proposed Development. CPRW recognised that National Grid *“is making considerable efforts to mitigate the visual impact of the proposed overhead route, including in particular options to cross the Menai”*. CPRW considered that the proposed Anglesey CSEC site (Braint) and Gwynedd site (Ty Fodol) are generally acceptable in terms of their wider landscape impact and that the main issues are the appearance and visibility of the CSECs. CPRW consider that close attention should be paid to the CSEC design to minimise visual impact, planting to screen these sites and would expect to see visualisation from various vantage points as part of a formal Landscape Impact Assessment. CPRW also deemed that the Proposed Development has not taken account of the existing Ynys Mon Local Plan, and its policies for landscape protection, and the UNESCO Global Geopark landscape designation awarded to the whole of Anglesey.

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service

- 3.3.85 The North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (NWFRS) considered that the offer of well-paid primary employments associated with the Proposed Development may have a significant impact upon operational response of the NWFRS. NWFRS also considered that the cumulative impact of developments in North Wales may exacerbate personnel recruitment and retention challenges, impact the A55 for the duration of the project, increase traffic which may impact NWFRS response to incidents and may have an impact on road safety and road traffic collisions.
- 3.3.86 NWFRS agreed that a CTMP is required and consider that the CTMP and TA should include traffic in a wider context, North Wales and possibly further afield. NWFRS also suggested several routes it considers unsuitable for the anticipated number of HGV and Medium Goods Vehicle (MGV) movements and provides potential alternative routes.

North Wales Police

- 3.3.87 North Wales Police welcomed the consideration of cumulative impacts but consider that a more joined up approach is taken around Construction Traffic Management, including staff travel and worker accommodation management. North Wales Police also discuss other topics such as increases in demand for transport, traffic and protests.

One Voice Wales

- 3.3.88 One Voice Wales considered that the Proposed Development has ignored the AONB and UNSECO Geopark designations as well as expressing its views on the noise impact of existing pylons and EMFs. One Voice Wales also discussed socio-economic impacts where it considered that an impact assessment of the Proposed Development upon the local tourism sector has not been provided. One Voice Wales believed that this impact assessment should be provided and should include the impact of restricting the potential growth in this sector and the impact on the agriculture industry. One Voice Wales also discussed potential impacts on health and the Welsh language and communities.

Public Health England

- 3.3.89 Public Health England welcomed the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Development and were satisfied with the “approach being taken (including further assessments) in preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and resulting Environmental Statement (ES)” and noted

that they would expect to see the separate Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) report alongside the ES as part of the DCO application.

Public Health Wales

- 3.3.90 The response from Public Health Wales focussed upon air pollution and workforce issues.
- 3.3.91 Regarding air pollution Public Health Wales supported the need to carry out assessments of local air pollution at sensitive receptors alongside key construction routes and the analysis of how cumulative impacts with other developments will impact traffic on shared routes. However Public Health Wales considered that the routes assessed should include the strategic network, both individually and cumulatively, and not be limited to local routes between the A55 and construction areas. Public Health Wales also considered that greater consideration, including air pollution modelling, should be given to the impact on health from additional queuing traffic at the Britannia Bridge and other congestion hotspots on the strategic network.
- 3.3.92 On the topic of workforce, Public Health Wales believed that greater consideration should be given to the cumulative impact of the workforce on communities on the island.

The Coal Authority

- 3.3.93 The Coal Authority confirmed that the Proposed Development “*would fall outside the defined Development High Risk Area*” near the settlement of Llangefni. The Coal Authority are pleased that the PEIR has given due consideration to coal mining legacy issues and has been informed by an appropriate range of geological and mining information sources. The Coal Authority considered that the PEIR appropriately concludes that ground investigations are required to confirm the findings of the desk study review that there are no land instability risks in proximity to recorded coal mining legacy features in section D of the Proposed Development.

4 Stakeholder Meetings and the Draft ES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 In addition to the consultations National Grid has undertaken ongoing stakeholder engagement throughout the evolution of the Proposed Development. This has included:

- Regular liaison with the two local authorities, including strategic and topic specific meetings and those associated with key stages of the evolution of the Proposed Development such as Scoping, production of the PEIR as described in sections 2 and 3 and before and after the Stage Three statutory consultation. Both local authorities were also consulted on the draft Statement of Community Consultation as described in Chapter 10 of the Consultation Report (**Document 6.1**).
- Meeting with statutory stakeholders such as Welsh Government, NRW and Cadw, and non-statutory stakeholders such as the National Trust and Energy Island Partners, to update them on the Proposed Development, discuss technical issues and respond to questions.
- Holding technical stakeholder workshops and meetings, providing a Proposed Development progress briefing, describing the design and assessment processes and engineering considerations.
- As a signed member of the Energy Island since 2010, representatives from National Grid have presented updates on developments in a variety of forums to assist with coordinating developer activities on Anglesey, sharing best practice, and keeping the wider stakeholders informed throughout the pre-application planning period.
- Provision of briefings for elected council members and town and community councils.
- Ongoing discussions with landowners and tenants potentially affected by the Proposed Development.
- Responding to queries raised by members of the public via the project emails and postal address.

- Recognising recurring themes and questions, and addressing these through social media such as Twitter, blogs and the project website.

4.1.2 Where feedback of relevance to the EIA has been provided through these engagements, this has been considered and reflected where appropriate.

4.1.3 As part of the meetings and workshops with statutory stakeholders, topic meetings and thematic groups have been held to discuss EIA methodologies, survey requirements, the baseline environment and initial assessment results. These are described in more detail below.

4.2 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

4.2.1 The stakeholder meetings represented a means of consultation with consultees prior to submission of the DCO. Where relevant the specifics of these meetings are referred to within each of the technical chapters (**Documents 5.7 to 5.18**). Table 5.2 lists the meetings which have been held for each topic the attendees and the matters discussed.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	12 May 2016	Gwynedd Council IACC	An update was provided on Landscape Sensitivity Assessment, wider visual appraisal and pylon options. A list of potential viewpoints for the landscape visual impact assessment (LVIA) was discussed. It was discussed that Landscape and visual (L&V) chapter to should be split into two chapters for the ES. Discussion was held on cumulative effects, defining effects, receptors, policy compliance, vegetation removal and the baseline. Separate methodology to assess settings. The extents of the L&V zone of influence and assessment were reviewed. It was noted that a residential visual amenity assessment would be undertaken and the potential presentation of this in a specific chapter detailing a residential amenity assessment was discussed
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	1 December 2016	Gwynedd Council IACC	Discussion on a draft mitigation strategy document, which included discussing control and management measures, mitigation by design, mitigation measures, compensation measures, and enhancement
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	18 May 2017	Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council)	A review of survey progress and a report on the initial findings was discussed. The need to assess the potential landscape and visual (L&V) effects of tunnel spoil at Braint and Tŷ Fodol construction compounds was noted To the date of this meeting 95% of Viewpoints (VPs) visits had

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
5.8).			<p>been completed, with the remaining 5% owing to issues with obtaining access to land.</p> <p>Discussions were held in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land sensitivity, • Residential visual amenity assessment • Special Landscape Area (SLA) • AONB. • Limits of Deviation • s42 responses received <p>A review of L&V specific input into the draft statement of common ground (SoCG), mitigation measures proposed, input into the development consent order (DCO) requirements and Section 150 (S150) Consents was undertaken during the meeting</p>
<p>Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7).</p> <p>Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).</p>	18 May 2017	Gwynedd Council	<p>A review of survey progress and a report on the initial findings was discussed. The need to assess the potential landscape and visual (L&V) effects of tunnel spoil at Braint and Tŷ Fodol construction compounds was noted</p> <p>To the date of this meeting 95% of Viewpoints (VPs) visits had been completed, with the remaining 5% owing to issues with obtaining access to land.</p>

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<p>Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7).</p> <p>Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).</p>	<p>28 June (am) 2017</p>	<p>IACC</p>	<p>The following items were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey progress • comments on draft documents ; and • proposed landscape mitigation plans for Braint and Tŷ Fodol THH/CSECs
<p>Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7).</p> <p>Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).</p>	<p>28 June (pm) 2017</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>	<p>A review of survey progress and a report on the initial findings was discussed. To the date of this meeting surveys in Gwynedd were 99% complete. Proposed landscape mitigation plans for Braint and Tŷ Fodol THH/CSECs were discussed and explained.</p>

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
5.8).			Discussion on how to present Visual and Sensory Aspect Area (VSAA) was held. .
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	19 July 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC	An update was provided on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the assessment and how comments on methodologies had been addressed; Photomontage production and formats; Scoping out of additional receptors; and]mitigation for Braint THH/CSEC
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	17 August 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council	Discussion was held on landscape character and the viewpoint assessment and presentation of the Design Approaches to Braint and Tŷ Fodol Tunnel Head Houses
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual Assessment (Document 5.8).	28 February 2018	IACC Gwynedd Council NRW	Comments received on the draft chapters as set out in Appendix 5.3 (Document 5.5.2.3) were discussed. It was explained that additional plans for reinstatement , landscape elements and assessment results as part of the ES chapters would be provided
Chapter 7 Landscape (Document 5.7). Chapter 8 Visual	19 June 2018	IACC Gwynedd Council	Discussions were held on the assessment results tables for the landscape and visual chapters with Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council). It was confirmed that there were no issues

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Assessment (Document 5.8).			<p>on the methodology, the way that they have been prepared or outcome of the assessments or residual effects.</p> <p>It was noted that Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council) still had some concerns over the level of mitigation and enhancement proposed.</p>
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	21 October 2015	NRW	Discussion regarding boreholes within the Menai Strait and locations onshore.
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	11 May 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>Update on the overall project and surveys undertaken.</p> <p>Overview of findings for Gwynedd Council on wintering birds and breeding birds. The current and upcoming survey activity was discussed. Discussion was held over possible enhancement options/opportunities such as considering bat roost opportunities on walls for example on the THHs if required.</p>
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	20 October 2016	Welsh Government	<p>Discussion regarding a Marine Licence of the boreholes within the Menai Strait including timing conditions on the licence relating to recreational and fishing activities. In relation to the Marine Licence the following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be conducted in consultation with the relevant statutory nature conservation body; • pollution prevention plan; and

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> biosecurity plan.
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	26 May 2017 (am)	IACC NRW	<p>Overview of project, specifically in relation to the OHL and tunnel. An update on species and habitat surveys was provided. It was noted during the meeting that National Grid had submitted an application to NRW to obtain a marine licence for exploratory boreholes within the Menai Strait.</p> <p>A discussed was had to review the outstanding issues from the s42 responses received. It was explained that species and habitat reports would be included as Appendices to the Environmental Statement (ES).</p>
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	26 May 2017 (pm)	Gwynedd Council	<p>Overview of project, specifically in relation to the OHL and tunnel. An update on species and habitat surveys was provided. It was noted during the meeting that National Grid had submitted an application to NRW to obtain a marine licence for exploratory boreholes within the Menai Strait.</p> <p>A discussed was had to review the outstanding issues from the s42 responses received. It was explained that species and habitat reports would be included as Appendices to the Environmental Statement (ES).</p>
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	28 June 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC	An update on bird surveys and results was provided during the meeting. Discussion was held on vantage point survey and results. Flight Line Plans were shown in different colours to

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
		NRW	distinguish those at risk heights and those below or above risk height. It was agreed that results from bird surveys in the context of the populations in Anglesey and Gwynedd would be reviewed
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	29 June 2017	IACC Welsh Government	An overview of ornithology survey progress, HRA, findings and a review of the methodology was provided. Biosecurity, policy compliance and biodiversity mitigation strategy were discussed. An update on otters, water voles and badger survey results were provided. It was explained that the ES would include separate appendices for individual species/surveys. A review of outstanding and draft topic specific input into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	07 July 2017	IACC NRW	An update on the bat and survey results within Gwynedd was provided. It was explained that all trees within the Order Limits had been surveyed for bat roost potential and trees with confirmed bat roosts were discussed. A discussion was held with regards to the number of ponds surveyed for Great Crested Newts (GCN) and the number of GCN confirmed present ponds.
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	11 July 2017	NRW	A presentation was provided and discussion held on the proposed methodology and screening assessment completed to date for the HRA. This was followed by a site visit to the Cors Erddreiniog part of the Anglesey Fens SAC.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	27 July 2017	NRW Gwynedd Council IACC	An overview of construction methodologies for the OHL, tunnel and other works was provided. An update on the results and survey methodologies for birds, bats, GCN, Water Voles/Otters, Reptiles, Terrestrial invertebrates, Aquatic invertebrates and red squirrels was given. Habitat creation as part of the landscape mitigation plans for Braint and Tŷ Fodol THH/CSECs was discussed. It was explained that indirect effects associated with traffic and dust impacts would be considered for local wildlife sites. An update on the list of sites included within the HRA was provided including the need to consider biosecurity. A review of draft topic specific input into the draft SoCG and specific mitigation was held.
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	17 November 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council NRW	Project update, including engagement on the draft Ecology and Nature Conservation Chapter. It was explained that GCN modelling and updated water vole and otter figures had been addressed in the relevant Appendix. It was explained that National Grid would be engaging on the draft ES and HRA.
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	23 March 2018	IACC NRW	An overall project update was provided and discussion was held on of main comments from the stakeholders on the draft ES as presented in Appendix 5.3 (Document 5.5.2.3)
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	16 May 2018	NRW	Discussion in relation to land access for ecology surveys and the approach to the taken in the assessment where land access had not been possible.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 9 Ecology and Nature Conservation (Document 5.9).	20 June 2018	NRW	The different tunnel construction techniques were explained and the potential effects of each on marine mammals and fish including a discussion on potential mitigation and requirements for European Protected Species Licences. Discussion in relation to land access for ecology surveys and the approach to be taken in the assessment where land access had not been possible.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	20 January 2016	Gwynedd Council IACC GAPS/Cadw	The meeting was held to discuss EIA scoping. It was explained that desk based assessment and site visits were being undertaken. It was noted that there is no accepted methodology for assessing effects on setting which is specific to Wales and that assessing effects on setting is recognised as a particular issue for linear schemes. It was agreed that the assessment would be based on the latest data from HER and that the Scoping Report would include draft list of assets to be considered in the assessment. The proposed methodology for assessing the significance of effect and the potential requirements for trial trenching were also discussed.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	13 May 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	An overall project updated was provided and it was discussed that assets that were to be included in the setting assessment should be clarified.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	20 July 2016	Gwynedd Council	It was generally agreed that the proposed scope was appropriate but noted the need to undertake field survey,

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
5.10).		IACC GAPS	geophysical survey and trial trenching. With regards to the setting assessment it was conformed that the new published settings guidance for Wales would be used. It was explained that the existing OHL would be considered as part of the baseline and discussion on potential enhancement measures to be included in the Enhancement Strategy (Document 7.13) were discussed.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	5 January 2017	GAPS	The scope of Geophysical survey and trail trenching was discussed. With regards to the Geophysical survey it was discussed that the proposed boundaries should be refined but that the total extent of survey (177 ha) was agreed in principle. . It was noted that initial areas focused too much on known areas of potential rather than sampling blank areas. For that reason, it was agreed the 1 ha blocks at pylon locations would be beneficial as they would provide a sample along the route.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	29 March 2017	GAPS	A review of Geophysical survey results and next steps was provided. It was explained that 102 areas along the route had been surveyed and that the geology was quite distinctive throughout the survey areas. Areas of interest were discussed and further evaluation in the form of trial trenching should be undertaken to inform the significance. It was noted that an Archaeological Strategy setting out areas for strip map and sample and watching briefs would be required.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	27 April 2017	GAPS	It was agreed that trial trenching would be undertaken at the THH/CSECs and Penmynydd Road Construction Compound. Agreement that a Strip, Map and Sample would be appropriate in other locations. Discussion over the preparation of Geophysical Survey Report and interpretation of results, and archaeological interpretation.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	5 July 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC GAPS	The scope of geophysical surveys which would be undertaken was discussed. It was agreed trial trenching would be focused in areas of highest disturbance and great construction risk in terms of limited flexibility e.g. tunnels due to the construction programme and limited flexibility. In the discussion over the setting assessment, it was noted that each asset was visited, and that the contribution of the setting to the value of the feature would be identified. The list of assets to be assessed that had been identified through scoping was agreed. Mitigation measures and enhancement measures proposed were discussed. The draft ASIDOHL assessment was issued a week following the meeting.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	20 July 2017	GAPS Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council)	The draft Geophysical Survey Report was reviewed. Discussion was held on trial trenching included a review of trenching locations noting that some trenching survey locations may need a bespoke specification to restrict sampling.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	31 July 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council GAPS	The draft Geophysical Survey Report was reviewed. Discussion was held on the trial trenching survey and the settings assessment, with guidance and visualisations provided. A review of topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	15 August 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council GAPS	Update of trial trenching survey locations and methodology was provided. Enhancement measures to be included in the Enhancement Strategy (Document 7.13) were reviewed, including the new settings guidance which refers specifically to enhancement measures. It was discussed and concluded the new settings guidance would not affect the assessment outcomes. It was noted that the Geophysical Survey east of Llanfechell area was not very clear, as such an existing 50 m long trench was split into two 25 m sections to cover the area of potential interest.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	16 November 2017	IACC Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council) GAPS	An overall project update was provided noting that the draft ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Document 5.10) would be provided for comment. It was explained the trial trenching surveys had been completed but it was noted that due to access limitations some trenches had been moved from the previously discussed locations. Discussion was held on the scope of mitigation proposals, including 'strip, map and sample'.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			It was agreed the 'settings' baseline was generally correct in scope and content.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	28 February 2018	IACC Gwynedd Council GAPS Arup (on behalf of IACC and Gwynedd Council)	Review of stakeholder comments on draft ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Document 5.10) and appendices.
Chapter 10 Historic Environment (Document 5.10).	27 March 2018	Cadw	A general project update and progress of the assessment work undertaken to date was provided. The route selection process of the Proposed Development was discussed. Cadw noted that the chosen option of tunnelling beneath the Menai Strait appeared to be preferable from a historic environment perspective to other options which had been considered, for example in comparison to the options involving buried cables through the registered parks and gardens. Cadw had been provided with the draft ES Chapter 10, Historic Environment (Document 5.10) and appendices and provided comments on the content following the meeting.
Chapter 11 Geology, Hydrogeology and	15 June 2016	IACC Environmental	Discussion regarding IACC Geographical Information System (GIS) information available in order to collect data on ground

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Ground Conditions (Document 5.11).		Health Officer (EHO)	conditions, ground contamination, locations of private water supplies and locations of water abstractions.
Chapter 12 Water Quality, Resources & Flood Risk (Document 5.12).	12 January 2017	IACC NRW Gwynedd Council	<p>Issues on hydrology, hydrogeology and drainage issues across the Proposed Development were presented, further to the assessment approach undertaken.</p> <p>It was identified around 20 water bodies would require some form of WFD assessment. At the time of the meeting, the FCA assessment was in the process of being started.</p> <p>The main flood risks were identified, along with key hydrology and flood risk receptors. Flood risk over the construction period and effects of construction activities potentially increasing flood risk in particular areas of the Proposed Development were discussed such as timing of works.</p> <p>Drainage management during including key drainage principles and access arrangements were discussed. It was noted, National Grid has a specification for operational drainage in relation to tunnel water ingress.</p>
Chapter 12 Water Quality, Resources and Flood Risk (Document 5.12).	13 June 2017	Gwynedd Council NRW	<p>Overview of the progress of the ES Chapter 12, Water Quality, Resources and Flood Risk, the FCA and WFD assessments were presented.</p> <p>The potential for saline intrusion at the tunnel was discussed noting that construction and operational water arising from the</p>

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<p>tunnel, would be monitored for water quality before discharge to local watercourses. Initial calculations on the salinity value were provided in the meeting. It was noted that further groundwater quality sampling was being scheduled to better understand the likely salinity.</p> <p>It was noted that hydrodynamic modelling has been undertaken for the Afon Brain and that a modelling report would be submitted to NRW.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific mitigation and input into DCO Requirements and Section 150 Consents included the review of protected sites was undertaken.</p>
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	8 April 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	Initial stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport matters such as the construction programme, construction vehicles (types and frequencies including Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs)), bellmouth design and construction traffic routes, ownership, structures information, accident data and traffic count data.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	14 April 2016	Welsh Government UK Highways North and Mid Wales Trunk	First stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport matters such as construction programme, construction vehicle (types and frequencies including AILs) and information requested from the Highways Authorities.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
		Road Agent (NMWTRA)	
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	7 June 2016	Welsh Government	Follow-up stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport assessment methodology including cumulative development and modelling and issues to consider.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	11 July 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	Stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport matters and the Council's response to the Scoping Report.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	14 October 2016	IACC	Matter which were discussed in the meeting included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timescale of the programme; • Braint and Tŷ Fodol construction compounds; • condition surveys; • Llangefni Link Road; • direction of tunnelling; • mud on the road; and • initial construction traffic routes including initial construction traffic volumes.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	14 October 2016	IACC	Site visit with IACC to the proposed construction routes on Anglesey.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	14 October 2016	Gwynedd Council	Site visit with Gwynedd Council to Pentir Substation and a subsequent walk around at the proposed temporary access points including discussion on site specific issues.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	25 January 2017	Welsh Government	Follow-up stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport assessment methodology.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	6 February 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council	Discussion on traffic and transport matters including the Transport Assessment (TA) scope, access bellmouth principles and construction traffic routing.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	19 April 2017	IACC	Stakeholder meeting discussing traffic and transport matters following s42 consultation.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	25 May 2017	Gwynedd Council	Meeting to discuss traffic and transport matters and access proposals for works in Gwynedd. The balance between providing visibility splays and impact on hedgerows/ecology was discussed.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13). Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document 7.5).	21 June 2017	IACC	Site by site comments on the temporary access schedule and drawings were reviewed and addressed. Traffic regulation mitigation measures were discussed. Review of information obtained for the OCTMP, PRoW Management Plan and the TA was undertaken.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Public Right of Way Management Plan (Document 7.6).			
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	23 June 2017	National Trust	Update on stakeholder feedback and inputs into the SoCGs were provided at the meeting. In relation to traffic and transport the proposed access arrangements for the Braint THH were discussed.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	18 July 2017	Road Safety Manager	An overview of the temporary access schedule and proposed mitigation measures was provided. In the review of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and traffic management measures the following elements were discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key locations; • durations; • enforcement; • working with the community; • advertising; • speed; • prohibition access; • access; • communication;

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> joint strategy and traffic management group. Information and data obtained for the CTMP was reviewed.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	26 July 2017	Presentation with IACC and Gwynedd Council	A summary of s.42 consultation transport feedback was provided, with key comments and themes from the consultation identified. There was a discussion over the proposed temporary access principles and construction traffic routes and types. A presentation was provided giving an update on the draft ES Chapter 13, Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13) alongside the assessment results from the draft TA (Document 5.13.2.1).
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	28 July 2017	IACC North Wales Police North Wales Fire and Rescue Service	An update was provided on the OCTMP (Document 7.5) and PRow Management Plan (Document 7.6). North Wales Fire and Rescue Service raised re-fuelling as an issue that should be considered in future plans. Traffic and transport around Braint THH/CSEC was discussed, specifically the access strategy, trip distribution, junction capacity, environmental effects and predicted traffic numbers. It was confirmed there will be an assessment of direct traffic and transport effects within ES Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13). Additionally, it was confirmed ES Chapter 17 Socio-economics (Document 5.17) would take traffic and transport effects into

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			consideration within the amenity assessment. A review of draft topic specific input to the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	21 November 2017	Gwynedd Council	This meeting provided an update to Gwynedd Council on the OCTMP (Document 7.5), PRoW Management Plan (Document 7.6) and the proposed physical mitigation measures and proposed road closures. A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	28 November 2017	IACC North Wales Police NWFRS	This meeting provided an update to IACC, North Wales Police and NWFRS on the OCTMP (Document 7.5), PRoW Management Plan (Document 7.6), Construction Route Hazard Risk Register and the proposed physical mitigation measures and proposed road closures. A review of draft topic specific input into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	1 December 2017	Welsh Government	Follow-up meeting discussing traffic and transport assessment methodology and measure proposed within the OCTMP.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	8 March 2018	IACC North Wales	Follow-up meeting discussing the draft of ES Chapter 13, Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13), draft of the TA (Document 5.13.2.1), the draft of the OCTMP (Document 7.5) and the draft

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
		Police NWFRS	of the PRoW Management Plan (Document 7.6).
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	16 March 2018	Welsh Government	Follow-up stakeholder meeting discussing the draft of ES Chapter 13, Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13), the draft of the TA (Document 5.13.2.1), the draft of the OCTMP (Document 7.5), traffic modelling on A55 and the A55 crossing for the OHL engineering requirements.
Chapter 13 Traffic and Transport (Document 5.13).	24 May 2018	North Wales Police IACC NWFRS	Following review the comments made on the draft of the OCTMP and annexes were viewed and discussed in the meeting. It was noted there would be appropriate safety protocols for the storage of any blast material. Tunnel construction was discussed in the meeting, specifically in relation to the use of drill and blast method.
Chapter 14 Air Quality (Document 5.14).	15 September 2016	IACC EHO Gwynedd Council EHO	There was a review of responses received following the scoping opinion relevant to the assessment on Air Quality. Collection of baseline data and air quality data sources was discussed, with further IACC air quality data sources identified for use in the collation of baseline air quality data for the study area. The Scope of the Proposed Development and Air Quality monitoring was reviewed, with the assessment on PM _{2.5}

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			indicators and values discussed.
Chapter 14 Air Quality (Document 5.14).	6 March 2017	IACC EHO Gwynedd Council	The location of air quality monitoring locations and the assessment approach to particulate monitoring were reviewed. One site was co-located to provide a check for consistency of data and to check the bias. It was agreed that higher coverage was appropriate in the vicinity of the construction routes.
Chapter 14 Air Quality (Document 5.14).	06 June 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC Welsh Government	A project updates was provided including potential impacts identified relating to traffic, in addition to proposed mitigation measures for dust and energy plant emissions. Three months of data had been captured prior to the date of the meeting. A summary of this data was circulated in the meeting. It was confirmed in the meeting that air quality monitoring was still being undertaken and that monitoring would continue for a further six months. A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 14 Air Quality (Document 5.14).	13 September 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council NRW	Modelling had progressed through the use of using traffic data and energy plant data to model the air quality impacts of the Proposed Development. The preliminary results of this air quality modelling was provided and discussed. It was confirmed IACC and Gwynedd Council would complete

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<p>the diffusion tube monitoring sheets using standard Welsh Government changeover dates.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.</p>
Chapter 14 Air Quality (Document 5.14).	17 November 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council NRW	<p>An overview of the air quality assessment and the findings from the assessment were discussed, for example construction dust monitoring and triggers.</p> <p>During the meeting it was agreed that NO2 monitoring would be extended from 9 months to 12 months.</p> <p>A concern was raised about the A55 layby at Llanfairpwll. It was agreed information and results in relation to laybys would be reviewed.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.</p>
Chapter 14 Air Quality and Emissions (Document 5.14).	11 January 2018	IACC Gwynedd Council HNP	<p>Dust baseline monitoring locations were reviewed in addition to dust monitoring criteria.</p> <p>HNPs modelling, monitoring and survey methods were discussed and any consistencies and inconsistencies raised.</p>
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational	10 June 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>It was explained that the noise and vibration assessment would be split between construction and operation but that there would be a coordinated approach between construction and operational noise baseline monitoring and locations. Discussion</p>

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Noise (Document 5.16).			on methodologies, locations, assessment criteria, receptor sensitivity and night time assessment. Discussion on 30 dB baseline and approach to baseline survey was held.
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	15 July 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	Discussion on Scoping Opinion and response to scoping provided by the LPAs to the SoS for construction noise and vibration and operational noise.
Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	13 October 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	Meeting to discuss following day's site visit.
Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	14 October 2016	IACC Gwynedd Council	Site visit undertaken for noise and air quality.
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	1 March 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council	Discussion over long term noise monitoring locations.
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational	23 May 2017 (pm)	Gwynedd Council	A review of survey progress and a report on the findings was presented including a review of methodology and mitigation measures. A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Noise (Document 5.16).			undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	23 May 2017 (am)	IACC	<p>A review of survey progress and a report on the findings was presented including a review of methodology and mitigation measures.</p> <p>Queries/clarifications with regards to the tunnel were raised and discussed.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.</p>
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	21 June 2017 (telecom)	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>Discussion was held on the baseline noise monitoring and dynamic ranges including the proposal to use the 25th percentile for nearly all the locations for the operational noise assessment. Operational noise prediction and assessment methodology (for both wet and dry noise), significance criteria and removal of an assumed 30 dB background were discussed.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.</p>
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	2 August 2017 (telecom)	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>The following items were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the baseline report and baseline zones; • update on the OHL noise prediction method; • discussion on approach to paralleling and accounting for the existing line in the assessment; and

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15) and Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	21 September 2017 (Telecom)	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>An update was provided on the baseline data, baseline zones and selected values for operational noise (OHL/THH/Pentir Substation) and construction noise (OHL/THH/Pentir Substation). Discussion around the setting operational noise conditions for THHs and the proposed shunt reactor at Pentir Substation. Further discussion was held on the approach to paralleling-accounting for the existing OHL in the ES.</p> <p>A review of draft topic specific inputs into the draft SoCG was undertaken during the meeting.</p>
Chapter 15 Construction Noise & Vibration (Document 5.15).	12 April 2018	IACC Gwynedd Council	<p>Comments on the responses to the draft ES were discussed. Main points of discussion included content of the draft of the NVMP (Document 7.9) and the draft of the CEMP (Document 7.4); construction hours and appropriate use of the S61 process.</p>
Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	17 April 2017	IACC	<p>Comments on the responses to the draft ES were discussed including assessment of cumulative effects, receptor sensitivity, DCO Requirement for a rating level at Braint THH; conductor selection and measures to reduce insulator noise.</p>
Chapter 16 Operational Noise (Document 5.16).	22 May 2018	Gwynedd Council	<p>Comments on the responses to the draft ES were discussed including, DCO Requirement for a rating level at Tŷ Fodol THH and Pentir Substation, conductor selection and measures to</p>

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			reduce insulator noise; assessment of cumulative effects, and receptor sensitivity.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	21 January 2016	Gwynedd Council IACC	Meeting established the scope and approach of socio-economic assessment including, the tourism and business surveys, assessment of health impacts, economic assessment, cumulative impacts, community impacts and the Welsh Language Impact Assessment.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	18 May 2016	Gwynedd Council IACC	Overview of proposed work on business and tourism surveys was provided including consideration of an additional two week tourism survey in autumn, with one week during the school holidays and one week outside of the school holidays. Discussions well held in relation to undertaking the visitor survey in low and mid-seasons, as well as high season as visitors differ in different seasons. Discussion were held over the questionnaire content the organisations to be considered for the tourism survey and location points and organisations of note.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	12 July 2016	IACC	Meeting to discuss the method/approach for the business and visitor surveys and to provide an update on the Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26) and the Well-being Report (Document 5.27).
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	17 February 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC	Discussion was held on the scope of the Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) following the circulation of the initial

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
5.17). Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26).		Welsh Government	scoping document in 2016. Review of National Grid comments to IACC/Gwynedd Council from the responses made regarding the WLIA.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	11 July 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC Welsh Government	Discussion on the direct and indirect changes to land uses. It was explained that the amenity assessment would focus on community settlements, community facilities, PRow and tourism/recreational resources. The potential impacts upon commercial receptors, tourism accommodation, tourism sector, employment and expenditure were discussed. The methodological principles and preliminary results were discussed.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	7 September 2017	IACC Welsh Government North Wales Police Gwynedd Council	A presentation of key data was given followed by a discussion over workers, accommodation, EIA approach and progression of draft SoCG.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).	5 December 2017	North Wales Police	The following items were discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • data and assumptions;

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
5.17).		North Wales Fire and Rescue Service IACC Gwynedd Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • travel to work area; • approach to the amenity assessment including communities, PRowS and tourist facilities; • local skills profile and opportunities for National Grid to provide supply chain opportunities locally; • breakdown of workforce skills; • worker accommodation assumptions and bedstock survey; and • Progress of statement of the draft SoCG.
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17). Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26).	11 April 2018	Welsh Government North Wales Police North Wales Fire and Rescue Service IACC Gwynedd Council	Review of the comments received on the draft Socio-economic Chapter (Document 5.17) and the draft of the Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26). Further discussions were held on skills profiles, bedstock survey, WLIA mitigation, worker age profile and spatial distribution of workforce and progress of the draft SoCG.
Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26).	17 February 2017	IACC Gwynedd Council	Overview of the estimated worker profile and programme for the construction period including estimates of the likely numbers of workers for each site compound. It was explained that the WLIA

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
Chapter 17 Socio-Economics (Document 5.17).			would be a standalone document within the DCO submission with appropriate cross-references to other related documents where required. It was agreed the approach of aligning study areas with those used for the socio-economic assessment was appropriate.
Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26).	24 May 2017	Welsh Government IACC Gwynedd Council	An overview of the Proposed Development was provided including initial workforce numbers and profile of the construction phase. The scope of the assessment; baseline sources and methodology including possible effects and mitigation of effects on Welsh language and culture were outlined.
Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Document 5.26).	5 October 2017	IACC Welsh Government Gwynedd Council	An updates was provided on the Proposed Development and workforce numbers. WLIA progress and findings were discussed including potential mitigation.
Chapter 18 Agriculture (Document 5.18).	Letter – 20 October 2016	Land Quality Advisory Service	Letter outlined the proposed methodology for determination of ALC grading and requested clarification regarding the proposed use of the digital Provisional 1:250,000 scale ALC mapping for Wales in light of the proposed withdrawal of the Provisional mapping in 2017 and subsequent replacement with a new Predictive map.

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
			<p>Response received 16 November 2016 confirming that the proposed methodology was acceptable, but requested clarification regarding the use of agroclimatic data.</p> <p>Submission of a clarified methodology was issues to Land Quality Advisory Service on 17 November 2016.</p>
Outline Waste Management Plan (Document 7.11).	19 May 2017	Gwynedd Council IACC NRW	<p>Presentation given on waste and mineral work updates. Discussions took place on the following sites: Caernarfon Brickworks, Llanddulas, Gwalchmai, Gaerwern, Rhuddlan Bach, Holyhead Port and Penrhyn Quarry. Additional sites for inclusion were suggested. There was a consensus that most facilities would require permit variations.</p>
Outline Waste Management Plan (Document 7.11).	29 June 2017	Welsh Government NRW HNP IACC	<p>Further sites for consideration were outlined and NRW confirmed that Coed Belyn Mawr has a permit. It was explained that access track construction would take around 12 months and concrete required for OHL would be in relatively small quantities.</p>
Outline Waste Management Plan (Document 7.11).	05 March 2018	North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service (NWMAPS)	<p>Approach to the EIA in regards to waste arisings and the delivery of materials discussed. Nature of the material arising from the tunnel was queried. Discussion was held on access tracks and comments on the drafts of the OMWP (Document 7.11), OMMP (Document 7.12) that were shared with the</p>

Table 5.2 Stakeholder meeting details			
Relevant ES Chapter	Meeting Date	Attendees	Matters discussed
		IACC NRW	stakeholders.
Outline Waste Management Plan (Document 7.11).	09 May 2018	Gwynedd Council NWMAPS	Overview of the Document 7.11 was provided including the proposed content of Appendix 2 including additional planning consents. Discussion of various sites, including quarry and landfill sites. The Local Development Plan and waste permit exemptions as a means of supporting the re-use of materials was discussed.

4.3 ENGAGEMENT ON THE DRAFT ES

- 4.3.1 Draft chapters of the ES were provided to IACC, Gwynedd Council, NRW, Welsh Government, National Trust, North Wales Police, NWFRS, and the North Wales Welsh Ambulance Service Trust between December 2017 and February 2018. All comments received have been taken into account where appropriate. Details of how each of the comments received have been considered is presented in Appendix 5.3 Stakeholder Review of the Draft ES (**Document 5.5.2.3**).

5 References

Ref 5.1 The Planning Act 2008. Available at:
http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2009/08/ukpga_20080029_en.pdf

Ref 5.2 PINS Advice Note Three, EIA Consultation and Notification
https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/advice_note_3_v5.pdf

Ref 5.3 North Wales Connection Project Scoping Report. Available at:
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020015/EN020015-000093-Scoping%20Report%20and%20Appendices.pdf>

Ref 5.4 The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. Available at:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2009/2263/contents/made>

Ref 5.5 North Wales Connection Project Scoping Opinion. Available at:
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020015/EN020015-000071-Scoping%20Opinion>

Ref 5.6 North Wales Connection Project Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). Available at: <http://northwalesconnection.com/current-documents-and-maps.aspx>

Ref 5.7 The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009) <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2009/2264/contents/made>

Ref 5.8 Scottish Natural Heritage, Assessment and mitigation of impacts of power lines and guyed meteorological masts on birds (Accessed November 2016 at <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A2047189.pdf>)

Ref 5.9 Environment Agency's Groundwater Protection: Principles and practice (GP3)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297347/LIT_7660_9a3742.pdf

Ref 5.10 See Table 31 of WHO Air Quality Guidelines for Europe for further information http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/74732/E71922.pdf).

Ref 5.11 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/air-emissions-risk-assessment-for-your-environmental-permit>

Ref 5.12 Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessments) Regulations 2007 (as amended)

Ref 5.13 UK Marine Policy Statement

Ref 5.14 Environmental Permit Regulations (EPR) 2010