



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN020015
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Kath Dunne
<b>Date</b>	10 May 2016
<b>Meeting with</b>	National Grid
<b>Venue</b>	Telecon
<b>Attendees</b>	Kath Dunne – The Planning Inspectorate Hannah Pratt – The Planning Inspectorate Ali Down – The Planning Inspectorate  Jacqui Fenn – National Grid Eloise Frank – National Grid
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Monthly telecon progress meeting regarding the North Wales Connection Project
<b>Circulation</b>	All participants

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

National Grid (NG) was familiar with the Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) statutory duty, under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended (PA 2008), to record the advice that is given in relation to an application or a potential application and to make this publicly available. NG was also aware that any advice given by the Planning Inspectorate does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.

### Welsh Translation

NG asked which application documents have been submitted bilingually for other Welsh Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in the past. PINS explained that NG should consult on their approach with the Welsh Language Commissioner on this matter, and also explained that certain non-technical documents have been translated in other applications.

NG intend to translate the summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for their statutory consultation later in the year, in addition all letters and communication materials will be issued bilingually.

### EIA Scoping

NG intends to submit their EIA scoping request on Tuesday 17 May 2016. PINS explained that they will include the list of scoping consultees within the scoping

opinion and the EIA Regulation 9 list will be issued alongside the opinion. NG will send the project description (to be contained within the scoping report) to PINS ahead of Tuesday 17 May.

NG explained that the scoping report will cover the integral works from Wylfa to Pentir, but that it will also refer to other works which they consider to fall outside of the NSIP DCO application.

In regard to NG's statutory pre-application consultation, PINS queried if NG will consult on the project as a whole (including those works outside of the NSIP application)? NG stated they will refer to the wider works and that information on all works will be available to everyone but they are considering how best to manage the level of information to avoid confusion or consultation fatigue. NG will explain that further information can be requested on the wider works.

### **Integral works**

Regarding the works proposed to the existing Wylfa substation, NG explained that they consider these works to be internal to the existing structure and will be constructed under permitted development. However information on this work will be provided in the statutory consultation round. The consent approach to Wylfa substation will be kept under review as the design develops.

In regard to the works required at the Pentir substation, NG consider that this is likely to be integral to the proposed overhead line, as the wider substation facilities are already present. This will be subject to review as the design develops.

NG consider any tunnel used for the Menai Strait section of the route would be integral to the overhead line as they consider these works to be mitigation for the overhead line. NG also explained that the relevant local authorities had expressed a preference to these works being included within the DCO. A tunnel would be approximately 4 metres in internal diameter with 6 cables. It would require shafts approximately 12.5m wide on each side of the Menai Strait and would be 80-100m deep at its maximum.

NG has ruled out laying cables on the seabed due to potential disturbance to sediment and potential effects on the reef in the SAC. An alternative option is horizontal directional drilling (HDD) which National Grid consider is riskier due to fault lines and possible limestone caverns in the area and the potential risk of bentonite breakout. It would also require twice as many cables than a tunnel to allow for heat dissipation.

### **Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) Update**

National Grid has formally submitted their SoCC to both LAs and gave a member briefing on 9 May 2016. This was earlier than programmed to accommodate a request from IoAC to fit with their full Council meetings. However NG has stated that it is still an early draft and an engagement strategy will be prepared to support this when full definition of the project for S.42 is available.