



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN020015
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Karl-Jonas Johansson
<b>Date</b>	7 April 2017
<b>Meeting with</b>	National Grid
<b>Venue</b>	Telecon
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Tracey Williams (Case Manager) Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case Officer) Hannah Pratt (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Alison Down (EIA and Land Rights Advisor)</p> <p><b>National Grid</b> Eloise Frank (DCO manager) Jacqui Fenn (Senior Consents Officer)</p> <p>North Wales Connection project update meeting</p>
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

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

#### Welcome and Introductions

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate continued by outlining its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

#### Submission timescales

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it intended to submit draft documents for review in June 2017. It was agreed that the Applicant would liaise with the case team if there was any changes to the draft document programme to enable the Inspectorate to allocate the appropriate resources. The documents to be reviewed will

be discussed at the next meeting. The draft Development Consent Order (dDCO), Explanatory Memorandum (EM), works plans, and some of the s42 consultation documents were reviewed during the summer of 2016. It was agreed that any document that had not been substantially changed since then would not be reviewed. It was confirmed that the Applicant will submit the draft Consultation Report for review.

The Applicant was advised to follow the structure format of the Richborough Connection/Hinkley Point C Connection projects when compiling the application documents.

Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station's (Wylfa) timescales were discussed and the Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the Wylfa submission timescales are very similar and that Wylfa is likely to be submitted at the end of 2017.

The Applicant was advised to work with Wylfa on the timescales for the two projects and to consider any implications arising from the applications being submitted at the same time, as it could have an impact on the local authorities' availability to respond to the 'Adequacy of Consultation' request during Acceptance and the ability of statutory consultees and others to engage during the Examination period and on hearing venue availability.

The Applicant queried whether submitting the electrical connection application prior to the generating station application would be problematic. The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant would need to consider their need case and justify the approach taken.

### **Examination Venues**

The Applicant was advised to check the venues against the Inspectorate venue compliance checklist. It was further highlighted that the small pool of suitable venues could impact on the programming of the examination.

### **Local Authority update**

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to set out a framework for what needed to be resolved with the Isle of Anglesey County Council's (IACC) new 'DCO Manager' before the examination starts. It was further advised that IACC should explore how delegated powers for the planning officers may be used during the examination period to ensure IACC would be able to meet submission deadlines.

### **Submission of application documents**

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to submit two hard copies of the application, alongside 6-7 electronic copies of the application. *Post-meeting note – The Inspectorate can receive the application documents on DVD/USB sticks.*

The Applicant was advised to be prepared to produce additional hard copies of the application documents if a Panel is appointed, if required, and highlighted that due to a change in legislation a Panel can now consist of 2-5 Examining Inspectors. During the examination hard copies would only be required if requested by the Examining Authority.

## **Fees**

The Applicant confirmed that it was aware of the changes in the fees regime. The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that that the Inspectorate's Advice Notes would be updated soon to reflect the changes.

## **AOB**

The Applicant was advised to prepare full copies both of all the statutory consultation responses and the summary tables in advance of acceptance.

It was agreed that the DCO application submission date would be discussed at the next project update meeting.

## **Specific decisions / follow up required?**

- Next meeting to be held on 12 May 2017.
- Applicant to send the Inspectorate its list of venues used during the consultation. *Post-meeting note – List of potential venues received on 21 April 2017*