

Brechfa Forest Connection

Development Consent Order Application - Reference EN020016

EIA09 Appendix 1 Notes of NRW ecology meetings

November 2015

Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Topics raised by PINS discussed during NRW meetings -19.9.14 and 02.10.15

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PINS Scoping Report Ref	RSK Scoping Report ref	Summary of points discussed at NRW meetings – 19 th September 2014 and 2 nd October 2014
Para 3.20	Para 8.5.36 – 8.5.38	All parties agree it is appropriate to scope out Pine Martin and Red Squirrel from detailed surveys. This is based on reasons outlined in the Brechfa Scoping Report.
3.21	Para 8.9.5	NRW confirmed there are no records of White-clawed crayfish from the Towy catchment. All parties agree it is appropriate to scope out impacts on White-clawed crayfish from the ES.
Para 4.9 -	Para 8.5.2	<p>All parties agree that the assessment of potential impacts and mitigation for the River Towy SSSI can be covered in the HRA NSER and the ES, see comment below.</p> <p>All parties agree that the Allt Penycod Stream Section SSSI (notified for its fossil assemblages) will not be impacted by the proposed overhead line and can be scoped out of the ES.</p>
Para 3.79 and 4.2 – 4.6. PINS Advice Note 10	n/a	<p>It was agreed that an outline of the proposed content of the HRA No Significant Effects Report (NSER) will be provided to NRW to comment on prior to its completion.</p> <p>NRW commented that the Carmarthen Bay SAC should also be included in the NSER.</p>
Paras 4.13 – 4.18	n/a	All parties agree that the Dormouse survey results will be reported within a Draft

		European Protected Species Licence and submitted as an appendix to the ES.
Para 3.62	n/a	All parties agree, based on the results of the breeding and wintering bird surveys, that there is no evidence for species being present along the proposed route that are susceptible to electrocution impacts (i.e. larger species that perch or nest on wires or poles such as herons). In addition the most sensitive section of the route (for birds such as Herons) – the Towy crossing – will be undergrounded. Therefore all parties agree that electrocution impacts on birds can be scoped out of the ES.

Other points/topics to be discussed:

NRW Scoping Response ref	RSK Scoping Report ref	Summary of points to be agreed/discussed
Page 3, (1)	n/a	All parties agree that the impact of single pole installation on wet habitats is likely to be minimal and can be mitigated through standard construction practices which will be detailed in the ES. A specific section in the ES to cover impacts on hydrological functioning of wet habitats is therefore no longer required.
Page 4, (3) Fish	Para 8.5.39	<p>All parties agree that main migration period for Shad on the River Towy is between April and June and HDD of the River towy should be avoided during this period.</p> <p>NRW commented that there is a requirement to complete all 'in-stream river works' before the 15th October. This embargo runs until the 15th April to protect spawning salmonids. Any open cut</p>

		watercourse crossings for the Towy should be completed outside of this period.
Page 5, Bats	Para's 8.7.11	Please see separate email correspondence between Victoria Gilbey (RSK/WPD) and Sandra Wells (NRW).