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Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network



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Environmental Statement Appendix 10.3
Socio-Economic Scoping Opinion Response

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November 2018

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Electricity Distribution Network**

APPENDIX 10.3

SOCIO-ECONOMIC

SCOPING OPINION RESPONSE

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The Planning Act 2008**The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009****Regulation 5(2)(a)****Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network****Environmental Statement: Appendix 10.3 Socio-Economic Scoping Opinion Response**

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APPENDIX 10.3:

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCOPING OPINION RESPONSE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This section provides the response to the socio-economic assessment comments raised by the Secretary of State (SoS) within the Scoping Opinion¹. The following table lists the issues raised by the SoS within the Scoping Opinion and how these have been addressed in the Environmental Statement (ES).

Table A10.3.1 – Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion		
Paragraph	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
Socio-economic		
3.78	The SoS notes the Applicant’s comments in relation to the limitations on providing local jobs however recommends that the types of jobs generated should be considered in the context of the available workforce in the area; this applies equally to the construction and operational stages.	Scottish Power have an existing depot at Oswestry which employs local people and staff from this depot would be used for this project.
3.79	The baseline data used in the assessment should be clearly described and be accurate and up to date. The ES should also consider the potential for the baseline to change, for example, as a result of adopted and emerging local development plan policies or other developments in the planning system. The SoS suggests that in addition to	Baseline data is the latest available and extensive consultation undertaken, as presented in Chapter 10 ‘Socio-Economic’ (DCO Document 6.10) and its associated appendices (DCO Documents 6.10.1 and 6.10.2).

¹ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000012-Scoping%20Opinion.pdf>

Table A10.3.1 – Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion

Paragraph	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
	consulting with economic and tourism officers at Shropshire Council, input could be sought from the Local Enterprise Partnership.	
3.80	Paragraph 12.7.74 of the Scoping Report notes that the spatial scope of the assessment will be similar to that applied to the landscape and visual assessments. It references a 1km area either side of the overhead line but not the further 5km which has been described in the methodologies for both the landscape and the visual topic chapters. It is appreciated that both the landscape and visual chapters consider that the impact at 5km is limited; however, the approach in this topic chapter of the Scoping Report is not justified or explained.	The spatial scope of the assessment has been defined and clearly presented in Chapter 10 ‘Socio-Economic’ (DCO Document 6.10) and its associated appendices (DCO Documents 6.10.1 and 6.10.2).
3.81	The SoS notes the proposed assessment criteria and welcomes the range of factors that will be considered in the determination of the significance of effects. The absence of definitive published guidance on appropriate criteria is acknowledged; however, the SoS suggests that the Applicant should seek to agree the assessment methodology, with relevant consultees.	Assessment methodology was agreed with Shropshire Council and presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) ² as part of the statutory consultation process.
3.82	In relation to the cumulative impacts assessment, consideration should be given to the potential for the Proposed	Noted.

² https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/userfiles/file/SPM_NSRRP_PEIR.pdf

Table A10.3.1 – Issues Raised and Responses to the Scoping Opinion		
Paragraph	Issue Raised by SoS	Response
	Development to affect the delivery of permitted development or sites/projects identified in the adopted or emerging development plan.	