## PC Infrastructure Planning Commission

## **Stakeholder Meeting Note**

File reference	N/A
Status	Final
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Meeting with	Environment Agency (EA)
Meeting date	15 June 2010
Attendees (IPC)	David Cliff, Sheila Twidle, Lynne Franklin and Andrea
	Kellegher
Attendees (non IPC)	Simon Birch (EA)
	Carol Bolt (EA)
Location	Temple Quay House, Bristol

Meeting purpose	To explore the relationship between environmental
	permitting and development consent orders.

## Summary of outcomes and advice given

Advised on IPC openness policy as well as not being able to discuss the merits of a specific project with any party. Referred to S.51 of the Planning Act 2008 (The Act) and noted that any advice given under S.51 does not constitute legal advice.

EA was updated on the timing and number of anticipated scoping requests due in July, and the applications due to be submitted later this year, in order to inform the EA for resourcing projections.

IPC explained the consistency and quality of the EA's scoping responses have been useful and relevant, but EA should ensure the responses arrive by the deadline. Late responses are forwarded on to the applicant, but are not included in the scoping opinion.

This meeting discussed the possibility of parallel tracking DCOs to the IPC and permitting/licensing to the EA. Under the T&CP regime amendments were sometimes needed to accommodate for the EA permitting. Explored the way in which EA could consider permits/licensing at an early stage.

EA are unlikely to relinquish their powers under s150 of the Planning Act (although EA may consider disapplying some consents such as works in rivers consents or impoundment licences if protective provisions are provided in the DCO as happens under the Transport and Works Act regime).

The future of the IPC was discussed, and it was explained that the current applications that are in the pre-application stage will continue to be processed and are to be submitted to the IPC. This will remain the same until primary legislation has been changed in order to change the how decisions are made.

## Follow up action required?

- All consideration will be given as to what should be in the DCO and this will be discussed at our next meeting
- EA to provide examples of environmental permits/licences such as land drainage consent using an energy from waste plant as an example.
- EA will see if there is an example of a planning permission that was incapable of implementation as a result of the permitting process requiring significant changes to the scheme
- EA to provide examples of protective provisions which have been agreed in TWA

Next meeting: August 2010

<b>IPC Circulation List</b>	Tracey Page
	Sheila Twidle
	Lynne Franklin
	David Cliff
	Andrea Kellegher