

Meeting Note

File reference	Non-case specific
Status	Draft
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Meeting with	EDF Energy – Nuclear New Build.
Meeting date	14 April 2011
Attendees (IPC)	Ian Gambles (Director of Operations) Helen Adlard (Director of Legal Services) Sheila Twidle (EIA Manager) Mark Wilson (Case Leader) Jeffrey Penfold (Assistant Case Officer)
Attendees (non IPC)	Ian Bryant (EDF Energy) Lynne Goodbourn (EDF Energy) Zoe Auckland (EDF Energy) Susan Challenger (EDF Energy)
Location	IPC Offices, Temple Quay House

Meeting purpose	The purpose of the meeting was to conclude discussions on an approach to handling applications for development consent for nuclear generating stations which was consistent both with the regulations governing the IPC process and the IPC's commitments to openness and transparency, whilst at the same time being compliant with the law protecting Sensitive Nuclear Information ("SNI").
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>Discussion of possible approaches to the management of SNI made reference to the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 112 of the Planning Act 2008; and • Rule 21 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, which concerns the availability and inspection representations and documents. <p>It was noted that intervention by the relevant Secretary of State ("SoS") in accordance with s112 of The Planning Act 2008 ("The Act") was one option. Such an intervention would enable the SoS to consider SNI evidence. Officials at the Department for Energy and Climate Change</p>
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	<p>("DECC") had confirmed to the IPC that presently the Government was not minded to use this power as a matter of routine in the case of all nuclear generating station applications. Alternative approaches to applications which enabled examination by the IPC should be considered.</p> <p>EDF Energy presented documentation that had been submitted as part of an application for consent to the SoS for the Department of Energy and Climate Change for a dry fuel store facility at Sizewell B. Discussion focused on the nature of the documentation, the level of detail and the fact that there was no SNI in the application, which had not affected the ability of the SoS to be able to consider and determine it.</p> <p>EDF Energy stated that, having considered the matter in the light of experiences such as the above, they considered it would be possible to submit an application for development consent which could be examined by the IPC without disclosure of SNI. On this basis, EDF Energy considered that the need to avoid disclosing SNI would not prevent the submission of necessary documents and information such as the site layout plan, dimensions and elevations of buildings/structures, and relevant aspects of internal design. For example, the exclusion of sensitive structural details, such as thickness of concrete, would not in their view affect the conduct of the examination, or prevent the applicant submitting a comprehensive Environmental Statement.</p> <p>EDF Energy confirmed that SNI would need to be disclosed to the relevant nuclear regulators as part of the formal safety and environmental regulatory requirements to construct and operate the proposed generating station.</p> <p>The IPC welcomed this conclusion. The IPC cautioned that the Examining Authority would adopt an inquisitorial approach at the examination, and would be likely to require evidence from the nuclear regulators. Appropriate and timely evidence from the regulators would be likely to be very important to enabling the IPC to reach a conclusion on an application for development consent without direct access to SNI.</p>
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Specific decisions/follow up required?	<p>No further discussions are necessary at this time. It will be a matter for EDF Energy and other relevant applicants to formulate their application documents in such a way that they meet the IPC's requirements without disclosing SNI. However, should the need to disclose SNI become unavoidable then EDF Energy should approach the IPC for further discussion.</p>
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Circulation List	Mark Wilson
	Helen Adlard
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