

Meeting Note

File reference	N/A
Status	Final
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Meeting with	Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) – Offshore Renewable Deployment Team
Meeting date	13 December 2011
Attendees (IPC)	Ian Gambles Sheila Twidle Owain George
Attendees (non IPC)	Michael Jampel Yuen Cheung Emma Cole Sophie Thomas Mandy King Richard Hall
Location	IPC Offices, Bristol

Meeting purpose	Discuss the role of the IPC and the role of the Office for Renewable Energy Deployment team.
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>DECC provided a presentation on the role of the Office for Renewable Energy Deployment team in offshore wind projects.</p> <p>The role of Offshore Transmission Operators (OFTOs) was discussed in terms of implications for the consenting process. DECC clarified the role of the “Generator Build Option” which allows developers to construct the offshore-onshore connection before selling to OFTOs (the price to be determined by OFGEM).</p> <p>The IPC provided an overview of issues and matters raised by stakeholders during the consenting process, and confirmed that the IPC is reliant on consultation with statutory bodies such as Natural England, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The IPC noted that statutory bodies appreciate the statutory timescales, obligations and requirements of the Planning Act 2008 process and are engaging appropriately.</p> <p>The IPC emphasised the importance of pre-application engagement with developers, stakeholders and local authorities and its contributions to the progression of applications to formal submission.</p> <p>The IPC clarified its approach to transboundary impacts and</p>
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	<p>consultation with member States. Reference to Advice Note 12 “Development with Significant Transboundary Impacts Consultation” was made. It was confirmed that the IPC screen all applications for potential transboundary impacts; reference was made to regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. It was confirmed that, to date, the IPC has not received transboundary consultation responses from any member states with regards to offshore wind projects.</p> <p>DECC sought clarity on whether an examination timetable would make provision for member States to comment on the application, and the weight given to consultation responses from Member States. The IPC confirmed that the weight attached to any consultation responses and the issues raised would be a matter for the Examining Authority. The IPC explained that it would meet its obligations to carry out transboundary consultation in a manner which should enable the Examining Authority to complete their work within the statutory time limits. Nevertheless, the IPC had already drawn DCLG’s attention to potential risks to the statutory timetable in this area, and the potential benefits of stronger international protocols.</p> <p>IPC clarified that applicants may resubmit an application should a previous submission not be accepted to proceed to examination.</p> <p>IPC provided an overview of the IPC’s integration with the Planning Inspectorate and the transitional arrangements to the National Infrastructure Directorate.</p>
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Specific decisions/ follow up required?	DECC noted the IPC’s comments on transboundary protocols and would consider possible opportunities to discuss the matter within government where appropriate.
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Circulation List	All Attendees