

Meeting Note

File reference	EN010003 – Galloper
Status	FINAL
Author	Amy Cooper

Meeting with	SSE Renewables and RWE Npower Renewables
Meeting date	27th May 2010
Attendees (IPC)	Mark Wilson, Amy Cooper
Attendees (non IPC)	SSE Renewables: Kate Tibble RWE Npower Renewables : Daniel Bates
Location	The IPC Boardroom, Temple Quay House

Meeting purpose	A general introduction to the project and its team members.
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Summary of outcomes	<p>Outline of Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-50 joint venture with SSE Renewables and RWE Npower <u>Renewables</u>. • Galloper is an extension to the Round 2 Greater Gabbard Project which has been offered an Agreement for Lease by the Crown Estate under the Round 1 and 2 extensions licensing round. • Between 70-140 turbines anticipated depending on turbine choice (rated capacity). • Project proposal to be connected to grid at Sizewell. • The majority of raw survey data has been collated (e.g. 2 year bird survey, geophysical survey, fishing and navigation data). Promoter now interpreting data and plan to meet with statutory stakeholders and technical NGOs etc. • Intend to include sub-station as associated development of DCO however location not yet definitive. There may be community and land owner complexities. • Cumulative Impacts are being taken into account and will be included in Environmental Statement. <p>Anticipated timetable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accepted offer of development rights with The Crown Estate in May 2010. Lease anticipated to be signed by mid-June. • Grid connection agreement signed in Dec 09.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping Opinion request to IPC within the next month • Final draft of scoping report anticipated Summer 10 • Draft SoCC given to LA's in March, awaiting comment. SoCC publication Summer 10 • DCO application –Aspire to submit end of 2010 <p>Consultation will be theme based</p>
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Record of any advice given	<p>Informed SSE and RWE that a Memorandum of Understanding is being developed between the MMO and the IPC in order to ensure our processes work together.</p> <p><i>Q. The Role of the MMO in the preparation of the LIR?</i></p> <p>Clarified that any input the MMO has in any local impact report should be taken into account however the preparation of a Local Impact Report(s) is the responsibility of the relevant Local Authority(s). The MMO is a statutory consultee and can identify impacts through their response under the S.42 consultation, the EIA process and through written or verbal representations at the examination.</p> <p><i>Q. What level of advice can EIA members of IPC give considering we are unable to discuss merits of a scheme?</i></p> <p>The EIA team can advise promoters about the process and requirements set down in the Planning Act and the EIA Regulations. If promoters need to discuss the content of their Scoping Report or Environmental Statement they should first discuss this with relevant statutory bodies. If questions remain about the content or format of the EIA process outputs, then the IPC team will assist where we can, under the direction of our legal colleagues.</p> <p>The IPC is a quasi judicial organisation and secretariat staff cannot prejudice the role of Commissioners later in the process by providing prescriptive advice about the content of documentation that may form the basis of decision making by the appointed Commissioner.</p> <p>The IPC EIA team can discuss the content of the scoping opinion in terms of clarification; however, once a scoping opinion is given it is not appropriate for the EIA team to enter into discussion on matters of principle.</p> <p><i>Consultation Advice</i></p> <p>Adequacy Statement – Encourage LA's to think about how they would check the adequacy of consultation undertaken</p>
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	<p>by the promoter. May's newsletter describes how Powys County Council has begun to think about this. SSE should consider drawing the local authority's attention to this.</p> <p><i>Q. SSE and RWE asked whether they could use their Scoping Report for the purposes of the S.42 Consultation (Preliminary Environmental Information). SSE made the point that they had already undertaken a great deal of survey work and as such their Scoping Report contains a much greater level of detail than a "typical" scoping report would.</i></p> <p>Schedule 4 of EIA Regs infers that the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) has to be one step further than the scoping report in terms of detail (i.e a draft Environmental Statement). IPC advised that promoter sends the scoping report to us in draft form as soon as possible for us to consider this issue further. The Act and Regulations are not prescriptive about what constitutes Preliminary Environmental information, however, the IPC would want to be assured that the Scoping Report was pitched appropriately so that scoping consultees are able to understand and respond effectively to the content.</p> <p><i>Q Is expediency a factor in decision making?</i></p> <p>The Act and Regulations set down a process that cannot be held up due to lack of participation by any single organisation or authority. Commissioners will make decisions, or recommendations to the SoS, based upon the evidence put before them, within a year of the application being accepted for examination.</p>
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Specific decisions/follow up required?	<p>To keep the IPC informed please forward to us the published SoCC and any LA comments.</p> <p>Send IPC a draft Scoping Report in advance of the formal Scoping Request. IPC would like at least 2 weeks advance notice of any Scoping request. The cover letter with the scoping request should make clear your intention not to seek a screening direction, and prepare and ES for the purposes of Regulation 6 1 (b) of the EIA Regs</p> <p>Next meeting to be arranged for early September after the request for a scoping opinion.</p>
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Circulation List	Mark Wilson
	Amy Cooper
	Daniel Bates
	Kate Tibble