



## Meeting Note

<b>File reference</b>	<b>EN010007 – Wylfa New Nuclear Power Station</b>
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Iwan Davies</b>

<b>Meeting with</b>	<b>Horizon Nuclear Power</b>
<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>
<b>Attendees (Planning Inspectorate)</b>	<b>Simone Wilding (Head of Service) Iwan Davies (Case Officer) Jack Wride (Case Officer) Sheila Twidle (Head of Environmental Services) Laura Allen (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor)</b>
<b>Attendees (non Planning Inspectorate)</b>	<b><u>Developer – Horizon Nuclear Power (Horizon)</u> Kieran Somers Maia Gralewski Rebecca Hardy Jon Cornelius</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Planning Inspectorate Offices, Temple Quay House, Bristol</b>

<b>Meeting purpose</b>	<b>Wylfa New Nuclear Power Station Update Meeting</b>
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<b>Summary of key points discussed and advice given</b>	<p>The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) advised on its openness policy, that any advice given will be recorded and placed on the National Infrastructure Portal website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended (the act) and also to note that any advice given under section 51 does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.</p> <p><b>Project Update</b></p> <p>The Developer confirmed that the sale of Horizon to Hitachi was completed on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012. The Wylfa and Oldbury Nuclear Power New Build projects will continue to be taken forward under the Horizon name.</p> <p>Horizon is aiming to complete its Business Plan in April 2013 and will to provide a high level programme soon after this.</p> <p>The Developer explained that the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) process for the power station will potentially take up to 4 years. It is unlikely that the first stage of the developer's formal consultation under the 2008 Planning Act regime will be undertaken before stage 2 of the GDA is completed as this is when there will be more certainty regarding the final design and layout of the plant.</p>
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In addition to the formal consultation that will be undertaken, the Developer explained that a range of informal consultation events such as monthly open surgeries and quarterly Project Liaison Group meetings continue to be undertaken.

PINS advised Horizon to ensure that feedback received during all consultations is integrated into the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work. PINS suggested that the DEFRA guidance on evidence plans may also be helpful, although it does not formally apply to Wales.

### **EIA Scoping**

Horizon sought advice from PINS on whether an update to the Scoping Opinion issued by the Infrastructure Planning Commission would be required, as the original Scoping Request was submitted in November 2009. The Developer also explained that additional land had been added to the project since the initial Scoping Report.

PINS advised that as it is not mandatory to request a Scoping Opinion it would be up to Horizon to decide whether or not to seek another Scoping Opinion. Submitting a new Scoping Request once Horizon has a better understanding of the issues surrounding the project would enable informed decisions to be taken including where it is possible to scope out matters unlikely to have a significant effect. It may be helpful to consider whether this should be after Horizon's first stage of formal consultation so that the comments received could be taken into account. PINS also stressed the importance of considering the cumulative impacts.

### **Outreach Activities / Consultation Programme**

PINS explained that it is anticipating holding an outreach event in North Wales that will cover three Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in the area, including the Wylfa New Nuclear Power Station. This is likely to be undertaken in spring/summer 2013 after the local elections and prior to the first formal public consultation of one of the aforementioned NSIPs.

Horizon indicated that they anticipate re-issuing the Statement of Community Consultation in late Q3/early Q4 of 2013 which may follow on from the PINS outreach event.

### **Marine Consenting Strategy (MCS)**

PINS agreed to look at a draft MCS and follow up with advice in due course.

## **Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)**

PINS signposted Horizon to its revised Advice Note for Habitats Regulations Assessment (AN 10) and emphasised the importance of completing the matrices appended to AN 10, which have been developed by PINS to assist the relevant Secretary of State as competent authority in fulfilling the requirements of the Habitats Directive. Where possible, Horizon should also seek to agree the outcome of the assessments with the relevant statutory nature conservation bodies prior to submission of the DCO application to PINS.

PINS also advised that it is important to show in an application that the HRA mitigation measures proposed are deliverable and suggested providing a detailed schedule of environmental mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Statement and Habitats Regulation Assessment report, and identifying the corresponding provisions in the draft DCO delivering that mitigation. It may be helpful to provide this information in tabular format.

## **North Wales Grid Connection (NWGC) DCO**

Horizon sought clarification on the effect the timing of the NWGC DCO would have on the Wylfa DCO, explaining that the proposed power station and grid connection are not connected applications and therefore the timings of when these DCO applications are submitted may differ. It is possible that the Wylfa DCO would be submitted in advance of the NWGC DCO.

PINS confirmed that it had been formally notified of the NWGC scheme and explained that whilst the power station application would need to include a connection statement, the consideration of the proposed power station application would not depend on the grid connection application. PINS referred to the Hinkley Point C power station and Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm developments where the DCO applications for these projects had been submitted prior to the submission of the DCO applications for the corresponding grid connections.

## **Section 53 – Rights of Entry**

The Developer advised that it may need to submit a s53 request to PINS seeking authorisation to enter land for the purpose of undertaking environmental surveys. The land which may be included within this request is located adjacent to the development site.

PINS advised that the s53 process can take up to 2 months to complete. PINS Advice Note 5 sets out advice on making authorisation requests under s53 of the Planning Act 2008.

	<p><b>Oldbury Update</b></p> <p>Horizon confirmed that Wylfa power station is the lead site and the proposal for Oldbury power station would follow subsequently.</p> <p><b>New Pre-Application Guidance</b></p> <p>PINS advised Horizon that new pre-application guidance has been published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG). Other revised guidance documents following on from CLG's consultation on the suite of guidance documents in July 2012 are likely to be published in due course.</p>
<b>Specific decisions/ follow up required?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horizon to confirm wording for PINS website Wylfa and Oldbury project webpages.</li> <li>• Arrange next project update meeting for early summer 2013</li> </ul>
<b>Circulation List</b>	Attendees