

Meeting Note

Status	Final
Author	Robert Ranger

Meeting with	EDF
Meeting date	28 February 2012
Attendees (IPC)	Mark Wilson (Principal Case Manager – Sizewell C Project) Simone Wilding (Principal Case Manager – Nuclear Team) Rob Ranger (Case Officer)
Attendees (non IPC)	Kate Stinton (EDF) (Communications Manager) Angela Pearce (EDF) (Head of Sizewell C Project)
Location	IPC Offices, Temple Quay House

Meeting purpose	To discuss the forthcoming application for a nuclear generating station at Sizewell C.
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Summary of outcomes	<p>IPC Welcomed attendees. Explained that a note would be taken of the meeting and published on the IPC website.</p> <p>EDF Explained that they hoped to give the IPC an update on progress in preparing the Sizewell project, to seek feedback on consultation report structures and methods, and to receive an update from the IPC on integration and changing organisational structures.</p> <p>EDF Described their intention to begin stage one consultation on the initial proposals later this year. The forward timetable is necessary fluid and will adapt as the project develops.</p> <p>The initial proposals consultation will set out options and invite feedback on proposals for the main site, associated development sites, and the socioeconomic aspects of the scheme.</p> <p>IPC Advised that early engagement with Local Authorities was key to a smooth pre-application stage. It is vital that all parties understand the significance of the Statement of Community Consultation.</p>
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	<p>In earlier projects, the IPC found tripartite meetings between the applicant, the IPC and other consultees (including local authorities) to be very helpful.</p> <p>EDF Confirmed that they were successfully building relationships with local authorities, and were confident that they could work with them well during the pre-application process. They agreed that tripartite meetings were a model that should be explored.</p> <p>IPC Suggested that it was also important to secure early engagement with statutory bodies, for similar reasons.</p> <p>EDF Explained that they were already in discussion with some key consultees, and that valuable suggestions and contributions had been made by them.</p> <p>IPC Generally had broad awareness of discussions with consultees in relation to forthcoming projects. Asked that they be kept as informed as possible, given the IPC's openness policy and commitment to impartiality.</p> <p>Noted the implications of parallel consenting, for example on the preparation of environmental statements.</p> <p>Emphasised that the PA2008 regime is intended to be a single consenting process as far as possible. Encouraged EDF to consider carefully the most appropriate route to consent for different elements of the scheme, having regard to public perceptions and the need for engagement.</p> <p>EDF Confirmed that they were sensitive to public perceptions of the process, and would consider all factors carefully at a corporate level when making strategic decisions on paths to consent.</p> <p>IPC Asked if EDF had begun identifying key issues of public concern or pre-existing groups that were likely to participate in the pre-application consultation process.</p> <p>EDF Confirmed that the local community was socio-economically diverse and host to established action groups. Key issues around transport were also beginning to emerge.</p> <p>IPC Asked how EDF proposed to record and present the outcomes of their consultation.</p> <p>EDF Explained that decisions were yet to be taken on the precise structure of the consultation and the consultation report.</p>
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IPC Advised that, although the principle function of the consultation report was to demonstrate compliance with the pre-application consultation requirements of the Act, it was acknowledged that it also served other functions relating to public relations.

The IPC suggested that transparency and openness in presenting the responses to consultation could help public confidence in the consultation process. The IPC's policy of publishing all submissions on our website was given as an example. However, it was noted that developers have data protection obligations.

The consultation report must demonstrate that procedural requirements have been met and that regard has been had to any responses.

The consultation report can include summaries of representations and the issues raised in consultation, but it is important that it is clear how these summaries have been produced.

EDF Remarked that they hoped to expand upon past experience and include more information about the geographical distribution of views, and a more legible and navigable consultation report. They are considering how much information to publish about the outcomes of consultation during the pre-application process, and may decide to produce interim reports at key stages.

IPC Thanked EDF for their update, and asked that they be kept informed of progress as the application developed.

EDF Asked about the new sector-specialist structure of the IPC Secretariat.

IPC The IPC casework team has been restructured into sector / specialist areas. It was explained that the IPC does not have the resources that would allow specialist teams to work only on projects in their specialist area; however, the intention is to, over time, focus the work of individual team members as much as possible in their specialist team area.

Each sector team has a Principle Case Manager with responsibility for developing knowledge and experience in their allocated area. It is hoped this structure will provide developers with a clear initial point of contact for general queries in the future.

Simone Wilding is the Principal Case Manager for Nuclear

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Circulation List	Attendees