

# Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	Bradwell B new nuclear power station
<b>File reference</b>	EN010111
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	04 December 2020
<b>Meeting with</b>	DEFRA Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environment Agency (EA)</li><li>• Natural England (NE)</li><li>• Marine Management Organisation (MMO)</li></ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Telecon
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Defra Update
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees and the Applicant

## Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

## Planning/permitting interface

The Environment Agency (EA) confirmed to the Inspectorate that there is no set timeline for the completion of operational permits associated with a nuclear new build proposal. The EA confirmed that permits would be determined as rapidly as is compatible with reaching a robust decision. The EA confirmed that for operational permits which are considered High Public Interest (HPI) it will consult the public twice; initially and at the draft decision stage. The EA has discussed with Bradwell B the risk associated with potential compartmentalising of operational and construction phases and the residual impacts of both.

## HRA/Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Evidence Plan & Monitoring

Natural England (NE) expressed concerns over a lack of coherence in the evidence plan and confirmed that reassurance would be found in a holistic approach being taken to all evidence plans, collating them all in one place. Broadening out the project impacts and drawing links between impacts will assist in overall coherence. The Inspectorate queried whether the siloed approach referred to was a result of different consultants working on different plans. Defra group confirmed they will work closely with Bradwell B company to develop a more holistic approach to evidence plans.

## **Ecological Zone of Influence**

Natural England (NE) expressed concern regarding the ecological Zone of Influence, emphasising that the ZoI should be precautionary, addressing the lifespan of the project. NE would advise that the perimeter does not extend far enough to sufficiently account for the various impacts associated with the project.

## **Engagement with Bradwell B**

DEFRA Group advised PINS that the engagement with Bradwell B is ongoing in a number of key areas. DEFRA group stressed that early engagement with them on all areas of interest is important to allow effective advice to be provided to the project, facilitated by the agreed upon DEFRA and Bradwell B code of conduct.

## **DCO Submission**

The Inspectorate queried whether DEFRA have communicated with Bradwell B about concerns regarding related DCO submissions. DEFRA group confirmed that this will be addressed as part of ongoing engagement.

## ***Specific decisions/ follow-up required?***

The following actions were agreed:

- EA to organise the next Defra/PINS call in 6 months' time to discuss Bradwell B project latest.