

Meeting Note

File reference	EN020004 – Electric line connection to Maesgwyn wind farm
Status	FINAL
Author	Amy Cooper

Meeting with	Western Power Distribution (WPD), Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC), Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (NPA).
Meeting date	14 th June 2010
Attendees (IPC)	Kath Powell, Robert Upton, David Price, Amy Cooper
Attendees (non IPC)	NPTCBC – Robert Bowen, Paul Colman, Nicola Lake WPD – Geraint Griffith, Christian Hjelm Brecon Beacons NPA - Denis Canney Walters Group – Simon Evans
Location	NPTCBC - Room 4 The Quays Briton Ferry

Meeting purpose	Outreach inception meeting for the proposed electric line connection to Maesgwyn wind farm. Discussion of the process in accordance with the Planning Act 2008, key roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and further discussion on the need for a larger outreach stakeholder event.
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Summary of outcomes	<p><u>Project Overview:</u> Proposed electric line to connect Maesgwyn wind farm to the grid, the wind farm is currently under construction. The draft Development Consent Order (DCO) for the electric line is a critical component to the project. Consultation likely to be completed by the 1st week of July 2010.</p> <p><u>Discussion points emerging from describing the new planning process:</u> Advised that the promoter send documents (including the draft DCO) to the local authority (LA) in draft enabling enough time to form a response. Other statutory consultees should also have the opportunity to thoroughly discuss the draft development consent order at the pre-application stage.</p> <p>Local impact reports (LIR) can be jointly produced, for</p>
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	<p>example by Brecon Beacons NPA and NPTCBC. Under the Planning Act 2008, National Park Authorities are classified as LAs (see section 43 of the Planning Act 2008) and are invited to produce LIR's.</p> <p>Written representations (both supporting and objecting) can be made during the Examination stage. The promoter will have an opportunity to comment on the written representations made at this stage.</p>
<p>Record of any advice given</p>	<p><i>Q. What is the role of the LA during the 28 day acceptance period? Will the LA be required check that the applicant has complied with their pre-application duties?</i></p> <p>The LA plays a vital role firstly by commenting upon the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) taking into account their knowledge of the local community and then by commenting to the IPC (within the 28 day acceptance period) on the adequacy of the consultation, for example commenting on whether the applicant has complied with their duties.</p> <p><i>Q. How are statements of common ground (SCG) prepared?</i></p> <p>IPC Guidance note 1 provides information about SCG. The promoter and any relevant parties can prepare a document setting out matters agreed and disagreed together with the reasons. It should deal with the factual matters and evidence relevant to the application. It would assist if a statement was agreed with the LA before submitting it during the examination stage.</p> <p><i>Q. Could the Examination stage take less than 6 months for minor projects?</i></p> <p>6 months is the maximum amount of time for the examination of an application to take place. We are unable to specify if applications will take less time until after the preliminary meeting however the IPC have devised business processes which aim to deal with each application as efficiently as possible.</p> <p><i>Q. If during pre-application consultation, a new consulting body is identified, does the applicant have to push back the consultation completion date or could they submit the application whilst awaiting a response?</i></p> <p>In this scenario applicants must be mindful that a minimum time period for a consultation response is 28 days. When an application is submitted to the IPC it must be complete. If consultation has not officially come to a close, the consultation report may not be complete and the IPC could refuse to accept the application at the acceptance stage.</p>

Specific decisions/follow up required?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Brecon Beacons NPA and NPTCBC guidance notes which discuss Planning Performance Agreements – completed on 28 June 2010. • Send IPC presentation to participants in meeting – completed on 28 June 2010. • Next meeting with Promoter and LA to discuss the DCO – meeting with promoter held on 8 July 2010.
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Circulation List	All attendees.
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