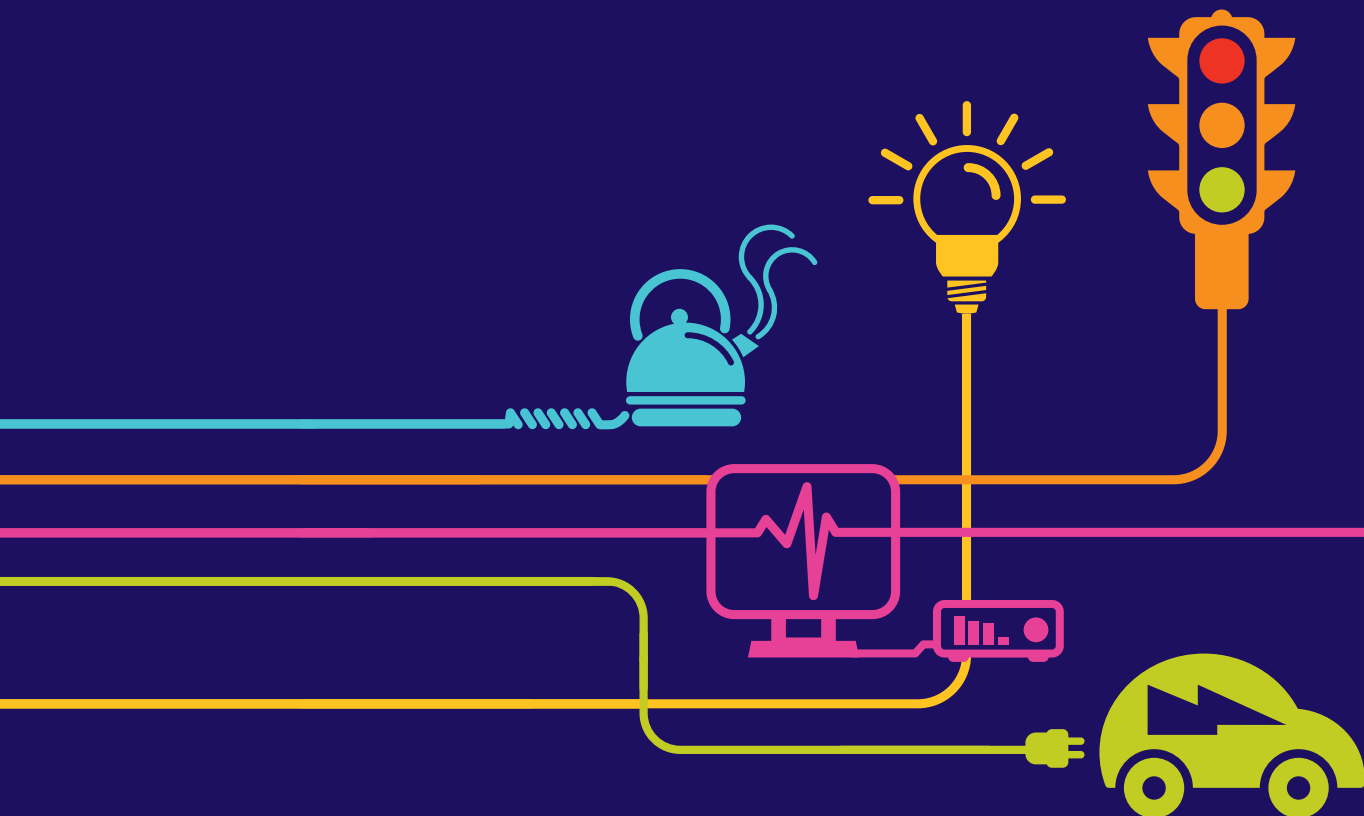


Environmental Statement Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan Sensitivity Test

Hinkley Point C Connection Project

*Regulation 5(2)(q) of the Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009*



Environmental Statement Sensitivity Test

Hinkley Point C Connection Project

5.29.2 – Environmental Statement Supporting Documents- Sensitivity Test

(orange highlight indicates the contents of this Volume)

Volume	Title
5.29.2.1	The Applicant's Report to Support Habitats Regulations Assessment Sensitivity Test
5.29.2.2.1	Transport Assessment Sensitivity Test
5.29.2.2.2	Transport Assessment Sensitivity Test Appendix A- Revised Construction Programme
5.29.2.2.2	Transport Assessment Sensitivity Test Appendix B Assessment Tables
5.29.2.2.2	Transport Assessment Sensitivity Test Appendix C Junction Profile Graphs
5.29.2.2.3	Transport Assessment Sensitivity Test Appendix D Revised Capacity Model Outputs
5.29.2.3	Flood Risk Assessment Sensitivity Test
5.29.2.4	Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan Sensitivity Test

Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan Sensitivity Test



Hinkley Point C Connection Project

OCTOBER 2014

**VOLUME 5.29.2.4 - DRAFT CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN SENSITIVITY TEST**

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) has submitted an application under the Planning Act 2008 to seek powers to construct, operate and maintain a new 400,000 volt (400kV) connection between Bridgwater, Somerset and Seabank Substation, north of Avonmouth, together with various associated development and other works ('the Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2 The application was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on the 28 May 2014. PINS confirmed that the application has been accepted for examination on 17 June 2014 (reference number EN020001).
- 1.1.3 Under the terms of its transmission licence, National Grid is obliged to make an offer of connection in response to each valid application made. In September 2007, National Grid received an application from EDF Energy for the connection of a proposed new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, Somerset (Hinkley Point C Power Station) to the high voltage electricity transmission system. This connection, as well as others in the South West and South Wales, triggered the need for new transmission capacity in the region.
- 1.1.4 That part of the Proposed Development that comprises an electric line above ground within section 16 of the Planning Act 2008 is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) for the purposes of that Act.
- 1.1.5 Under Section 31 of the Planning Act 2008, development consent is required for development to the extent that it is or forms part of an NSIP. Development consent is granted by the making of a Development Consent Order (DCO) for which application may be made under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008.
- 1.1.6 An Environmental Statement (ES) was submitted as part of the DCO application (the submitted ES). The submitted ES was prepared in accordance with the Planning Act 2008, The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/2263) ('the 2009 Regulations') and The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009. The submitted ES comprises **Volumes 5.1 to 5.27** of the DCO application submission and include a Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (**Volume 5.26**)

1.2 Modifications to Connection Date

- 1.2.1 National Grid has received an application from EdF Energy for a modification to the connection date for the Hinkley Point C Power Station that seeks connection two years later than the present connection date described in the submitted DCO application.
- 1.2.2 As a result of the application from EdF Energy, on the 19 August 2014 a formal offer for a revised connection date was made by National Grid to EdF Energy.
- 1.2.3 EdF Energy has advised National Grid that, although technically this offer is confidential until signed, National Grid can inform PINS that an offer has been made.

- 1.2.4 To meet the revised connection date offered, the construction programme, as presented and assessed in the submitted ES (**Volume 5.3.2, Appendix 3.B**), has also been revised.
- 1.2.5 The revisions to the construction programme are greater than moving the start of construction to a later date than presented in the submitted ES. The duration of the construction of the various individual proposed development components has changed; the duration of some development components have increased, others have decreased. The changes are described and explained in Chapter 3 of the sensitivity test (**Volume 5.29.1.1**).

1.3 Submitted Draft Construction Environmental Management

- 1.3.1 The submitted Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (**Volume 5.26** of the submitted ES) describes the mitigation measures that will be implemented by National Grid and its appointed contractors during each stage of the construction of the Proposed Development, and by Western Power Distribution (WPD) and its appointed contractors during each stage of the construction of Works Nos 4A to 4P (inclusive) as described in Schedule 1 of the Development Consent Order (DCO) and any associated development in connection with those works (the WPD works).
- 1.3.2 The submitted Draft CEMP has been prepared in accordance with:
- the mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Statement (ES) (**Volumes 5.6.1 to 5.16.1**) to reduce effects on the environment from the construction of the Proposed Development;
 - National Grid's and WPD's Environmental Management Systems (EMS) (National Grid's Environmental Policy and WPD's Environment Policy; and
 - National Grid's and WPD's management control documents that accompany each EMS.
- 1.3.3 Revisions to this Draft CEMP, including the management plans, may be undertaken during the examination of the Application. Revisions will be incorporated and the document will be finalised to become the CEMP. National Grid, WPD and their contractors will implement the CEMP during the construction of the Proposed Development.

Submitted Management Plans

- 1.3.4 Construction management plans were also submitted to accompany the Draft CEMP, which will be implemented during the construction of the Proposed Development. The construction management plans detail further mitigation measures to reduce effects on the environment. These include:
- the Outline Waste Management Plan (Outline WMP) (**Volume 5.26.2** of submitted ES);
 - the Biodiversity Mitigation Strategy (BMS) (**Volume 5.26.3** of submitted ES);
 - the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for the Mitigation of Effects on Archaeological Remains (Outline WSI) (**Volume 5.26.4** of submitted ES);
 - the Draft Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) (**Volume 5.26.5** of submitted ES); and
 - the Public Rights of Way Management Plan (PRoW) (**Volume 5.26.6** of submitted ES).

- 1.3.5 The CEMP (including management plans) will be implemented by National Grid and WPD (as appropriate) secured through the following Requirement of the Development Consent Order (DCO).

1.4 Purpose of this Document

- 1.4.1 In light of the modifications to the connection date and the Revised Construction Programme required, a sensitivity test of the submitted Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (**Volume 5.28** of the submitted ES) produced to accompany the DCO application has been undertaken. The purpose of the sensitivity test is to determine if any changes are required to the submitted CEMP as a result of the Revised Construction Programme.
- 1.4.2 It should be noted that there have been no changes to the Proposed Development presented in the submitted Draft CEMP. There are no changes to the objectives of the CEMP or the proposed construction team and this will remain as set out in the submitted CEMP. The only change is related to the construction duration and that is what has been considered as part of this sensitivity test.

2 GENERAL SITE OPERATIONS

- 2.1.1 There will be no change required to the general site operations set out in the submitted Draft CEMP as a result of the Revised Construction Programme. The construction of the Proposed Development will be undertaken in accordance measures set out in chapter 2 of the submitted Draft CEMP (**Volume 5.26**).

3 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION PRINCIPLES

- 3.1.1 This chapter of the submitted Draft CEMP describes the mitigation measures that would be implemented during the construction of the Proposed Development to reduce adverse effects as identified in the submitted ES (**Volume 5.6.1 to 5.16.1**), in National Grid's environmental policy (**Annex A** of submitted CEMP) and WPD's environmental policy (**Annex B** of submitted CEMP).

- 3.1.2 There are no changes required to the existing environmental management and construction principles set out in the submitted Draft CEMP for the Revised Construction Programme with the exception of the following areas:

- Biodiversity and Nature Conservation
- Traffic and Transport

- 3.1.3 There are no other changes to the environmental management and construction principles detailed in the submitted CEMP as a result of the Revised Construction Programme and the following management plans do not change:

- Outline Waste Management Plan (Outline WMP) (**Volume 5.26.2** of submitted ES);
- the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation for the Mitigation of Effects on Archaeological Remains (Outline WSI) (**Volume 5.26.4** of submitted ES);
- the Public Rights of Way Management Plan (PRoW) (**Volume 5.26.6** of submitted ES).

3.2 Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

- 3.2.1 The submitted BMS (**Volume 5.26.3** of submitted ES) describes the mitigation measures that would be implemented during the construction of the Proposed Development.

- 3.2.2 The BMS includes mitigation measures for the Mendip Limestone SAC and North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC. The Order Limits of the Proposed Development do not encompass any part of these designations. However, the 400kV underground cable route passes near to at least one component site of each SAC.

- 3.2.3 As a result of the Revised Construction Programme the duration of works associated with the 400kV underground cable will increase. Accordingly the Revised Construction Programme requires in the following additions to be added to the BMS:

- To avoid complete loss of all hedgerows throughout the entire 8.5km length, the 400kV underground cable construction works would be delivered in a

phased manner. The works would be limited to a maximum 3km length of active working area at any one time. As detailed in the submitted ES, the working area along the length of the underground cables route would be approximately 100m wide and would be protected by post and wire fencing. Once the cables have been laid and trenches backfilled, habitat reinstatement would be phased as works are completed in each length. Whilst the cables would be laid in sections, the haul road for this project component is assessed to remain in place for the duration of works.

- To minimise the period of habitat loss at Sandford substation early reinstatement of some habitats would be undertaken in 2017, facilitating early reinstatement of some habitats. **Figure 7.35.6 (Volume 5.28.1.3** of the ES Sensitivity Test) presents the Sandford Substation Landscape Mitigation Phasing Plan which would be followed.

3.2.4 All other measures set out in the submitted BMS remain unchanged as a result of the Revised Construction Programme.

3.3 Traffic and Transport

3.3.1 To undertake the construction of the Proposed Development whilst minimising disruption to public travel and effects on the condition of the highways, a Draft CTMP (**Volume 5.26.5**) has been prepared and submitted to mitigate the potential effects of construction traffic on local communities and the environment.

3.3.2 The Draft CTMP describes the mitigation measures that would be implemented during the construction of the Proposed Development, in accordance with Schedule 3, Requirements 22 to 27 of the DCO, as appropriate.

3.3.3 The measures that would be implemented through the CTMP include the restriction of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) movements during identified peak periods, particularly at certain junctions. The CTMP (**Volume 5.26.5**) identifies 12 junctions that would have complete peak period HGV movement restrictions in place. These restricted hours will be secured by a DCO requirement.

3.3.4 A single additional junction, the M5/A4/Avonmouth Way, will be subject to the peak period HGV vehicles restrictions as a result of the Revised Construction Programme and added to the CTMP and DCO requirements.

3.3.5 All other measures set out in the submitted CTMP remain unchanged.