

Hinkley Point C

News from EDF Energy



June 2011

Site Preparation Works – Decision Due



Onsite investigations

To get ready for the planned construction and operation of a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point C, EDF Energy submitted a planning application for site preparation works in November last year.

The works proposed relate mainly to preparing the site for the construction to come, should permission for the power station be granted. This includes the removal of a number of hedgerows and some woodlands and grassland. It also involves drainage works, fencing, re-routing existing underground services and providing a site access road and internal roads ready for future construction traffic.

By applying now and getting the infrastructure in place, it will allow construction of the power station to start as early as possible, and help to reduce disruption to local communities in the longer run.

In the event that the main application – to be submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission later this year – is unsuccessful, the land would be fully restored.

Early Investment

A new power station at Hinkley Point would deliver significant investment and new jobs for Somerset people, as well as supplying reliable, low carbon energy to meet future needs. The site preparation works stage, which is expected to last around 15 months, would unlock early investment and create approximately 500 new jobs.

Council Consultation

West Somerset Council has carried out a second round of formal consultation that ended on 31 May 2011, but the Council has said that it may take into account comments

received after this date, up to when the application is determined. To comment on our site preparation works proposals:

- write to Planning Services, West Somerset Council, West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset TA4 4QA
 - email hinkley@westsomerset.gov.uk
- Please quote reference number **3/32/10/037** in correspondence.

Somerset Chamber of Commerce recently highlighted its strong support for the site preparation works application (see full story on back page).

Nuclear Update

EDF Energy has welcomed the interim report from Dr Mike Weightman into the implications of events at Fukushima, and pledged to implement all recommendations to further enhance its strong nuclear safety programme.

The interim report concluded that the UK nuclear power industry has reacted “responsibly and appropriately” to events in Japan, “displaying a leadership for safety and a strong safety culture”. The report also found that analysis of Fukushima revealed no reason for curtailing the operation of existing plants, nor any significant gaps in the scope or depth of the safety assessment principles for nuclear facilities in the UK.

Further information on page 3.

Save today. Save tomorrow.



EDF Energy in the Community

Primary School Children Help Relocate Plants

During engagement over our planting plans along the southern boundary, local residents suggested that we involve Stogursey Primary School.



Primary school pupils at Bishops Wood

We invited the Primary School to the site to find out more about the variety of plants that live on the proposed Hinkley Point C site. Stogursey Primary School already has a garden it is looking to expand so is keen to re-locate plants to the school.

On 13 May 2011, 30 children aged 6-11 years old, with the help of local residents, carried out a survey of plants and soils in

the area known locally as Bishops Wood. The children collected leaf samples from a variety of different trees and shrubs to take back to the classroom to identify. They were also taught how to analyse soil samples to help explain why certain plants like specific types of soil.

The children will be returning to Bishops Wood shortly to unearth cowslips and relocate them in the school garden.

Mrs Dunwood, Stogursey Primary School teacher said: "The children learnt how to identify a variety of different plants, and we are busy developing our plan to successfully relocate the cowslips we found in Bishops Wood. I would like to thank EDF Energy and the Shurton residents who joined us and made the day such a great educational experience. We look forward to our return visit later this year to relocate the cowslips."

Local resident Lesley Flash, who shared her botanical expertise with the local children, said "This seemed to be a very successful collaboration between Stogursey School, the Planting Group and EDF Energy, which benefits the life of the community and contributes to an enduring educational project."

EDF Energy at Bath & West Show



In support of our commitment to the development of future skills and the need to inspire a new generation of young people into science and engineering, EDF Energy graduate trainees have been sharing their passion for the nuclear industry with potential future workers as part of the Royal Bath and West Show (1-4 June 2011).

Each year, the show attracts more than 120,000 visitors, including 8-16 year olds from the Somerset area, and provides an opportunity to introduce young people to the exciting world of engineering, science and technology through fun, hands-on activities and personal involvement. Our overall aim is to raise aspirations in the South West and to create an appetite for the next generation of nuclear professionals to consider engineering as a potential future career.

Lengthsman Scheme a Success

Stogursey residents have given the thumbs up to the Lengthsman pilot scheme operated in the parish by EDF Energy since January this year.

District councillor Chris Morgan has been working closely with EDF Energy in identifying specific or emergency works to improve the area, such as clearing blocked drains, removing fallen trees and maintaining footpaths.

The work undertaken so far by Lengthsman Phil Venning has had a dramatic effect in alleviating flooding issues, with a number of flood-prone roads seeing a reduction of incidents.

As the summer approaches, Phil is shifting his focus to tasks such as grass cutting, highway sign maintenance and the upkeep of the footpath network in collaboration with the County Council and Parish Council. Throughout this time the regular tasks, such as litter picking, will continue in addition to tasks suggested by local residents.

Councillor Chris Morgan said: "Phil's approachability and willingness to assist has already made him a welcome face in the villages and hamlets within the scheme area. Many residents have commented to me how nice it is to have someone available to tackle these seemingly small issues that make a real difference to the area."

The scheme makes use of cutting-edge battery powered tools, reducing emissions, noise and disturbance in the work area. Further sustainability measures are also in the pipeline in line with EDF Energy's commitment to a sustainable future.



Phil Venning at work in Stogursey

Nuclear Update continued

Chris Huhne MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change said: "We want to see new nuclear as part of a low carbon energy mix going forward, provided there is no public subsidy. The Chief Nuclear Inspector's interim report reassures me that it can."

EDF Energy's Chief Executive Vincent de Rivaz welcomed Chris Huhne MP's assessment that new nuclear can be part of the future energy mix and provides "the basis to continue to

remove the barriers to nuclear new build in the UK".

Mr de Rivaz said: "We will of course take on board Dr Weightman's recommendations for nuclear new build. We welcome the key conclusions that there is no need to change the present siting strategies and that there is no reason to depart from plans for more than one reactor on a site.

"We continue with work on the design assessment of reactors, the local consents

and site preparation processes, preparing our application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, recruiting the highly skilled people and suppliers who will help deliver the project and working to establish the policy framework for investment.

"We welcome Government's commitment to move ahead on key facilitative actions including ratification of the National Policy Statements as soon as possible."

Nuclear Focus for Somerset Pupils

Fifty secondary school students from Somerset swapped their Easter break for a taste of university life and the chance to find out about the available opportunities and required skills in the nuclear industry.



EDF Energy's nuclear engineering graduates work with Somerset students

Year nine pupils from Robert Blake Science Community College, East Bridgwater Community School, Chilton Trinity Technology College, Haygrove School, Elmwood School and Penrose School in Bridgwater attended a residential course run by EDF Energy at the University of Exeter.

Students, mentored by EDF Energy nuclear graduate trainees, took part in various engineering and nuclear-related challenges during the four-day event, which finished at lunchtime on 21 April. They also found time to relax with team-building exercises, a sports night, film night and an end of course gala dinner and disco.

David Eccles, Head of EDF Energy's Bridgwater office, said: "The students all did incredibly well and should be proud of their achievements. The course was intense but they are clearly keen to learn and understand more about nuclear and the potential opportunities in the industry.

"The residential course is part of our commitment to young people in Somerset, as we try and raise aspirations and encourage people to pursue a career in the nuclear industry."

Ashleigh, 14, from Chilton Trinity Technology College said: "It's been a really good experience and fun to mix with students from other schools. I've enjoyed speaking to real engineers, who can put the projects we're carrying out in context. It's made me realise that engineering is in everything!"

Josh, 13, from Robert Blake Science Community College is now considering a career in engineering after taking part in the course. He said: "I really enjoyed the practical side of our tasks. To come up with an idea and then work together to create a real-life working device is really fun."

As well as specific engineering and nuclear-related activities, the four-day event included sessions on presentation skills and careers talk, before culminating in presentations from the students.

As part of its education strategy, EDF Energy has committed to invest £3 million in the new Energy Skills Centre at Bridgwater College, along with a further £1.5 million to establish a construction skills training centre at the college. Other projects include an investment of £1.6 million in West Somerset Community College.

The event was supported by The Smallpeice Trust, an independent charity providing programmes to promote engineering careers to young people.

Somerset Chamber Urges Support

The Somerset Chamber of Commerce has been urging businesses to make their voices heard in support of EDF Energy's application for site preparation works which will give a "huge boost" to Somerset's economy.

The site preparation works for Hinkley Point C is expected to inject at least £5 million in wages alone into the local economy. If approved soon, work could begin later this year.

Rupert Cox, Chief Executive of the Somerset Chamber of Commerce, said: "Whilst we understand that there are many environmental issues and other factors that need to be considered, the business and employment benefits are not necessarily being given the weight they warrant at present.

"At a time when many businesses are fighting for survival, a planning decision

that delays the start of the site preparation work will be particularly costly to both business and employment as we fight our way out of a recession.

"I urge businesses throughout the county to make sure your voices are heard – and to get involved in this unique opportunity."

Overall, Hinkley Point C is expected to deliver 5,000 Somerset jobs during construction and 900 permanent jobs during operation; £100 million per year into the local economy during construction and £40 million per year during operation; and over £6 million into skills and training in Somerset.

The Somerset Chamber of Commerce is working closely with EDF Energy to register interest in contracts from local companies and to get as many of the county's firms in

the best possible position to take advantage of tenders for work as they arise. Many businesses across Somerset have already registered their interest in sourcing work in the project via the Hinkley Point supply chain portal:

www.hinkleysupplychain.co.uk



Supply Chain event in Somerset

Nuclear to Play Major Role in Meeting UK Carbon Reduction Targets

In its Renewable Energy Review, published on 9 May 2011, the independent Committee for Climate Change advocated a bigger role for nuclear in decarbonising the UK economy.

The review concludes that nuclear generation appears likely to be the most cost effective form of low carbon power generation in the 2020s.

Given uncertainties over future developments, the review recommends that the Government should adopt a portfolio approach to technology development. This should cover renewable generation and other low carbon technologies.

The review sets out a scenario where 40% of our electricity comes from renewables, 40% from nuclear and 15% from coal and gas.

EDF Energy welcomes the Committee's recognition of the important role of low carbon nuclear power. EDF Energy has consistently argued that diverse energy sources, including renewables and nuclear, are needed.

The UK must address climate change at a cost that consumers and businesses can afford. The Committee has said that safe nuclear power, the lowest cost, large scale, low carbon electricity source, is a key element.

Contact Us

To find out more about our proposals for nuclear new build at Hinkley Point C please contact us in one of the following ways:

- Drop in or write to our Bridgwater office: 14 King Square, Bridgwater TA6 3DG (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays)

- Call us on: 01278 444 600 or 0800 169 6507*
- Email: enquiries@edfenergyconsultation.info

If you have a general EDF Energy customer/billing enquiry, please call 0800 096 9000.

*These contact details will put you in touch with PPS, who are contributing to community engagement on behalf of EDF Energy