

Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area

Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation

Background to this Consultation

NNB Generation Company Limited whose registered office is at 40 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 7EN (referred to in this document as 'EDF Energy') has previously undertaken consultation on its plans for Hinkley Point C as follows:

- Stage 1: 'Initial Proposals and Options for Hinkley Point C', from 16 November 2009 until 18 January 2010;
- Stage 2: 'Preferred Proposals for Hinkley Point C', from 9 July until 4 October 2010; and
- Stage 2: 'Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals', from 25 February to 28 March 2011.

Our proposals have evolved further following feedback received from the Stage 2 consultation and because more information has become available. In light of this we have concluded that further material changes¹ may need to be made to our proposals. We intend to submit our application for development consent to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) later this year.

M5 Junction 24: Possible Alternative Site and Highway Improvements

EDF Energy has identified a possible alternative to the site proposed in our Stage 2 and Stage 2 Update consultations for a park and ride and freight management facility near Junction 24 of the M5.

During these consultations, EDF Energy was proposing to provide a park and ride and freight management facility on a greenfield site on the west corner of the Huntworth roundabout, near Stockmoor village.

In March 2011, the nearby 'Somersfield' site, a former distribution and warehouse facility came onto the property market. This site has the

¹ In general, a 'material change' is a change that EDF Energy considers it appropriate to consult on and includes any change that could result in new or substantially different impacts on people living in the vicinity of any of our proposed development sites.



potential for more car and HGV holding spaces than the site previously consulted on at Junction 24 and could be operational earlier.. EDF Energy has concluded that it should consult the local community, statutory consultees and the general public about potentially moving the Junction 24 park and ride and freight management facility to this new site. We also plan to include a temporary induction centre and a temporary consolidation facility for courier services at the 'Somersetfield' site.

We will also be consulting on potential further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area.

Consultation Requirements and Timetable

Before submitting our application for a development consent order (DCO) to the IPC, we therefore intend to publicise and consult on these proposed changes.

This consultation will be conducted in accordance with an updated Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) to be published on 14 July 2011, alongside this Consultation Strategy. A copy of this SOCC is attached as an Appendix. The SOCC sets out how EDF Energy is proposing to consult with the local community as required under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008.

As required by the Planning Act 2008, EDF Energy consulted the relevant local authorities - Somerset County Council, Sedgemoor District Council and West Somerset Council, about the SOCC for 28 days before it was published.

However, in order to give the longest possible time for the consultation, and to avoid holding public events during August where possible, EDF Energy has undertaken informal community consultation prior to the publication of the SOCC and the start of formal consultation.

This period of informal consultation started on 1 July 2011. During this period we have consulted in parallel with statutory consultees under section 42 and with the general public under section 48 of the Act.

Formal consultation with the local community in line with the published SOCC will now run from 15 July to 12 August 2011.

Consultation Guidance

There is no specific guidance from the IPC about changes to projects following consultation, although guidance has been issued on the level of detail that should be consulted upon.²

EDF Energy's approach to consultation on material changes made after and as a result of Stage 2 is therefore based on paragraph 78 of "Planning Act 2008: Guidance on Pre-Application Consultation", published by Communities and Local Government (CLG), which states:

"It may be necessary from time to time for a promoter to proceed with project options significantly different from those consulted on (for example because new information arises which renders all previous options unworkable or invalid for some reason). Where a proposed application changes to such a degree that the legitimacy of the consultation may be in question, promoters should consult the community again on the new options. In such circumstances promoters should supply consultees with sufficient information to enable them to fully understand the nature of the change (but not necessarily the full suite of consultation documents), and allow at least 28 days for consultees to respond."

We consider that the proposed changes at Junction 24 and the Highway Improvements are material changes and therefore do justify further consultation. However, in all other respects our proposals for the HPC project remain unaltered.

Scope of the Consultation

EDF Energy is seeking the views of landowners, stakeholders³, the local community and the general public on the proposed changes. This consultation covers the relevant parties specified in sections 42-48 of the Planning Act 2008.

We published a consultation document, '**Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area**' on 1 July 2011, which is available:

- From EDF Energy's Bridgwater office (14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG), West Somerset Council office (West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset, TA4 4QA) and Sedgemoor District

² See IPC Guidance Note 1 on Pre-Application Stages, published in revised form in March 2010

³ Stakeholders include local community groups, their representatives and relevant statutory consultees



- Council office (Bridgwater House, King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3AR) during normal office hours;
- At all libraries in Somerset and Council offices/Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor and at the public exhibitions; and
 - To download from the project website:
www.edfenergyconsultation.info

This document remains available for comment as part of this formal consultation.

Preliminary environmental information about the 'Somerfield' site and the potential further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area has also been available from 1 July 2011 to download at the project website and in hard copy at the Bridgwater office (see details above) and at the public exhibitions.

EDF Energy does not believe that it is either necessary or proportionate to re-consult on the project as a whole as we have already received views on our 'Preferred Proposals' and the further material changes to these outlined in the Stage 2 'Update Consultation'.

We will respond to comments received during all stages of our consultation in a Final Consultation Report to be submitted with our DCO application.

Following the close of this consultation, we will consider the further consultation responses before adjusting and finalising our application for a DCO to be submitted to the IPC. The Final Consultation Report will explain how responses at all stages of the consultation have influenced the final proposals.

Consultation Zones

In designing the geographic extent of this consultation, EDF Energy has had regard to the CLG guidance (see above), in particular paragraphs 49 to 54. Paragraph 50 states:

"Section 47 of the Act requires promoters to consult people in 'the vicinity of the land'. Promoters are encouraged to view this requirement from a broad perspective, and aim to capture the views of those who work or otherwise use the area, as well as those who live there..."

In paragraph 53 it goes on to say that:

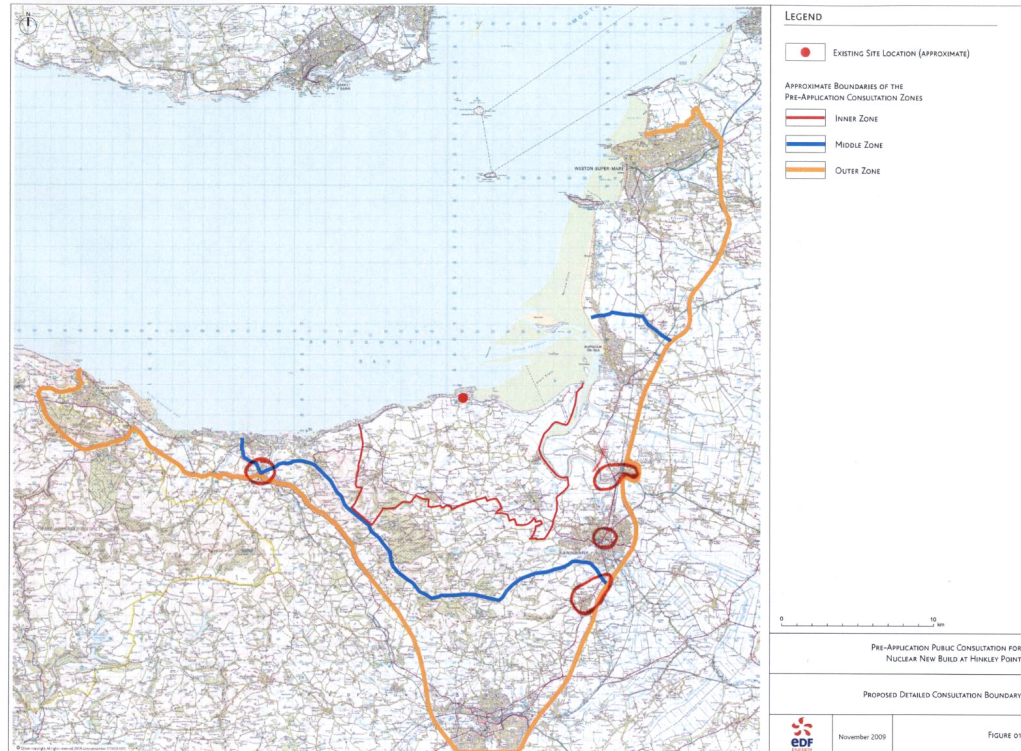
“...In most communities promoters will need to strike a balance between consulting those who are significantly affected by proposals (i.e. those identified in section 42 of the Act) and consulting a wider group of local people who will not be directly affected, but who will have a reasonable fear that they might be, or will have strong feelings about the project. This second category may include people who live in the proximity of the development, but not close enough to be physically affected by it, people who are likely to be affected by wider impacts of the development, or who are users of, or visitors to the area (for the avoidance of doubt it should be underlined that all this activity is expected to take place in the local area – it is not intended to imply that promoters must consult outside the identified vicinity)...”

EDF Energy has taken the view that, in the context of this consultation, those living and working closest to the proposed changes in the parishes of North Petherton and Bridgwater will be the main focus of this consultation. We will seek to consult with Bridgwater Town Council, as well as North Petherton Parish Council and the local business community via the Sedgemoor Business Forum and the Bridgwater Chamber of Commerce. We will publicise the proposed changes and hold public consultation events primarily in these areas.

However, EDF Energy is also aware that its plans for development at Junction 24 are part of the wider proposals for a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point C and need to be seen within that context. We also informed other communities and community stakeholders affected by the overall proposals for Hinkley Point C about this consultation and welcome their views on the proposed change.

EDF Energy used the consultation zones established for the Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals' consultation and the Stage 2 'Update Consultation' to inform this wider group. These zones are defined as:

- 'Inner Zone' covering communities within an approximate 5 mile radius of the Hinkley Point site and in the vicinity of all proposed associated development sites;
- 'Middle Zone' bordered by Burnham-on-Sea to the north, the M5 to the east (but including Puriton), south of Bridgwater and along the Quantock Hills as far as Williton and Watchet; and
- 'Outer Zone' stretching around Taunton to the south, Minehead to the west, Weston-super-Mare to the north and to the west of the M5.



Indicative map of consultation zones from Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals' and Stage 2 Update consultations

Within these consultation zones, communities and community stakeholders have been informed about the consultation through an edition of the newsletter, 'Hinkley Point: News from EDF Energy', which was distributed as follows:

- By post to all residential and business properties within the 'inner' consultation zone (approximately 12,300 addresses);
- By solus distribution through local newspapers in West Somerset and Sedgemoor within the 'middle' zone (approximately 32,000 households); and,
- To community stakeholders, including elected councillors at all levels, within the 'outer zone' as well as all who have responded to previous consultations and potential accommodation providers (approximately 1,800 contacts).

Consultation Programme

In designing the programme for this consultation, we have been guided by paragraphs 13 and 14 of the CLG Guidance (see above), which states the Government's views that:

“We also recognise that, whilst consultation should be thorough and effective, there will be a variety of possible approaches to discharging the requirements [of the framework set out in the Planning Act 2008], and that consultation will need to be proportionate. We understand that promoters will have their own approaches to consultation, and already have a wealth of good practice on which to draw.

“This guidance therefore outlines what the Government’s expectations are, and suggests a range of approaches as a ‘toolkit’ for promoters to use where relevant and helpful, but does not specify a particular approach to pre-application consultation.”

EDF Energy commenced informal consultation with the local community on 1 July. Formal consultation begins on 15 July 2011 following publication of the SOCC and runs until 12 August 2011.

The purpose of the informal consultation with the community was to give, as explained above, as much time as possible for people to consider the implications of EDF Energy’s proposed changes and to ensure that consultation events are not held during August where possible.

During this informal consultation period, EDF Energy has undertaken the following activities:

- Notified those who responded to our previous consultations about this proposed change to our ‘Preferred Proposals’ explaining how they can respond to the consultation;
- Published the consultation document: **‘Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area’** on the project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info;
- Made copies of the consultation document available in hard copy form at all public events and in Somerset libraries, as well as Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor;
- Circulated an edition of the newsletter, ‘Hinkley Point C: News from EDF Energy’, to over 46,000 households and stakeholders;
- Advertised the consultation and the public exhibitions in local newspapers and issued a statement to the local media;
- Held a public exhibition on Monday 11 July 2011 at the Sedgemoor Auction Centre for people living and working in the vicinity of the two possible Junction 24 sites;

- Put the exhibition material on public display from 11 July 2011 at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office;
- Offered to meet and consult with both North Petherton Parish Council and Bridgwater Town Council; and
- Consulted with community representatives at a meeting of EDF Energy's Hinkley Point C Community Forum.

At the same time that informal consultation with the local community began on the proposed changes, EDF Energy started formal consultation with statutory consultees (under section 42 of the Act) and the general public (under section 48). Consultation under section 42 will run until 28 July 2011 and under section 48 until 12 August 2011.

Formal consultation with the local community under section 47 of the Act will begin on 15 July and run until 12 August 2011. EDF Energy believes this is an appropriate and proportionate length of consultation because we have:

- Already consulted informally with the local community since 1 July 2011, giving them the same information as section 42 statutory consultees leading to more time in which to consider the proposal;
- Provided a range of opportunities to engage with EDF Energy over an additional two week period prior to the start of the formal consultation; and
- Focused the consultation on material changes to our proposals. It is not designed to repeat the extensive Stage 1 and Stage 2 consultations, which were concerned with the project as a whole.

While the consultation documentation and public events are specifically targeted at relevant stakeholders and local residents directly affected by the proposed changes, anyone can comment on EDF Energy's revised proposals.

During the formal consultation period we will additionally:

- Hold public exhibitions on Saturday 16 July 2011 at Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 3TQ from 10am to 4pm and on Thursday 21 July 2011 at Bridgwater Town Hall, High Street, Bridgwater, TA6 3AS, from 12pm to 8pm;
- Advertise these events in advance in local newspapers, through the SOCC and by notifying the local media;
- Continue to make the exhibition material available for public inspection throughout the consultation period at EDF Energy's

Bridgwater office, 14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours;

- Continue to make copies of the consultation document available in hard copy form at all public events and in Somerset libraries, as well as Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor;
- Offer to meet with representatives of the business community, including the Bridgwater Chamber of Commerce and Sedgemoor Business Forum, and housing tenants in Bridgwater; and
- Discuss this consultation at a meeting of EDF Energy's Transport Forum.

Copies of the consultation document '**Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area**' will be available at the public events and can be obtained from EDF Energy using the contact details provided in the SOCC.

The consultation document will also be translated, on request, into minority languages used locally and an interpretation service is available. The document will be available on request in large print format. EDF Energy will also undertake home visits, on request, to those with mobility issues who are directly affected by our proposals. These services will be publicised through our newsletter, the website and at the public exhibitions.

EDF Energy will respond to specific requests for additional meetings or consultation events where these are appropriate and necessary. At this stage in the consultation process, we do not intend to hold further stakeholder workshops or focus groups.

We undertook consultation with 'hard to hear' groups during our Stage 2 consultation. Those who attended the focus groups and other events for 'hard to hear' groups in Stage 2 will receive notification of this consultation. We do not, therefore, consider it necessary or proportionate to hold further consultation events specifically for 'hard to hear' groups on these specific changes.

Related Consultations

Part of EDF Energy's consultation strategy is to make sure that people are aware of related consultations and events taking place at a similar time to this consultation in order to reduce the risk of confusion. We will therefore use our project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info,



and the public exhibitions to publicise related consultations and events that we are aware of, whether these are organised by EDF Energy or others.

EDF Energy's application for site preparation works at Hinkley Point C is scheduled to be considered by West Somerset Council at Committee on 28 July 2011. Where appropriate, we will provide clarification to the public about how the application relates to this consultation process.

We are aware that National Grid has also been undertaking consultation on proposals for new transmission lines in parts of Somerset, including areas in the vicinity of the Hinkley Point C site and in the Bridgwater area. It is likely that there will be further consultation undertaken by National Grid on this issue during 2011 and, in the event that National Grid's consultation takes place at a similar time to our own, we will endeavour to co-ordinate our consultation events with theirs.

A planning application for the 'Bridgwater Gateway' site promoted by another developer, and including the greenfield site previously proposed by EDF Energy for its park and ride and freight management facility near Junction 24, is currently before Sedgemoor District Council. This application remains undetermined. It is possible that the Council may undertake further consultation, or the application may be determined, during the course of our consultation.

Follow Up Stakeholder and Community Engagement

During the period after our consultation, and prior to submission of the DCO application, we will continue to engage with key stakeholders and the local community using the EDF Energy Hinkley Point C newsletter, Community Forum, Transport Forum, Main Site Neighbourhood Forum and project website.

We will also consider:

- Update briefings with members and senior officers of the three Somerset local authorities.
- 'Drop in' sessions and targeted mailings as required.

This approach is consistent with paragraph 85 of CLG's Guidance (see above), which states that:

"Formal pre-application consultation is unlikely to be either the beginning or the end of the process of engaging consultees.

Promoters are encouraged to engage iteratively with communities, local authorities and technical consultees before they undertake formal consultation, and continue to consult with them bilaterally throughout the application and examination process and beyond."

Submission of DCO Application

EDF Energy will undertake a public information exercise following acceptance of the DCO application by the IPC where we will provide/undertake:

- A 'DCO Application Summary Document' and a 'Consultation Report Summary' (summarising the Final Consultation Report submitted to the IPC) to be sent to all key stakeholders and those who responded to the consultation process;
- A series of public exhibitions in the main locations affected by the development incorporating exhibition boards and full DCO documentation;
- A further issue of EDF Energy Hinkley Point News summarising the DCO application and providing IPC contact details;
- All DCO application material to be provided via the project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info; and
- All exhibition material and DCO application documentation to be available on an ongoing basis at the EDF Energy Bridgwater office during normal office hours.

We will publicise this information exercise and the availability of final documentation through the local and regional media.

This material will help to facilitate examination of our DCO application when statutory consultees, the local community and the general public (if registered with the IPC as interested parties) will have a further opportunity to comment directly to the IPC on the final proposals for Hinkley Point C.

We will seek to co-ordinate this public information exercise with any outreach events that the IPC may hold in relation to the Hinkley Point C project and ensure that the role of the IPC is clearly explained.



Appendix: Revised Statement of Community Consultation

[Published in the Somerset Gazette on 14.7.11 and the Bridgwater Mercury on 19.7.11]



EDF Energy: Consultation Plans for a New Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point C

Statement of Community Consultation

(Published under section 47(6) of the Planning Act 2008)

About this Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC)

This document updates and replaces the SOCC published by EDF Energy in February 2011.

It sets out how NRG Generation Company Limited whose registered office is at 40 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 7EN (referred to in this document as 'EDF Energy') intends to consult local communities affected by a potential material change to its proposals for a new nuclear power station, known as Hinkley Point C.

EDF Energy is considering replacing one of its proposed sites for a park and ride and freight management facility, a greenfield site near Junction 24 of the M5, with an alternative facility on the brownfield 'Somersetfield' site also near Junction 24 and to include a temporary induction centre and a temporary consolidation facility for courier services. The 'Somersetfield' site has the potential for more car and HGV holding spaces than the greenfield site previously proposed and could be operational earlier. We will also be considering potential further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area.

EDF Energy has consulted West Somerset Council, Sedgemoor District Council and Somerset County Council about the contents of this SOCC and has had regard to their responses. A supporting document outlining our strategy for consulting the local community about these proposed changes, 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area: Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation', informed the SOCC and is available from the project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info or by contacting EDF Energy (see Contact Information below).

Government Policy

The Government has decided that new nuclear power stations should play a significant role in the future generation of electricity for the UK. The National Policy Statement for Nuclear Power Generation (NPS), laid before Parliament for approval on 23 June 2011, describes the need for new nuclear power stations and identifies Hinkley Point as one of the sites suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station by the end of 2025. The House of Commons plans to hold a debate and vote on the approval of the Nuclear NPS in due course. If Parliament approves this NPS, the Government plans to designate it as soon as possible thereafter.

Hinkley Point C Proposals

The aim and objective of the Hinkley Point C proposals is to contribute towards meeting the Government's goal of providing 26 gigawatts of new non-renewable electricity generating capacity by 2025. EDF Energy plans to build a nuclear power station on land to the west of the existing Hinkley Point A and B power stations. Development on the main site will include: two UK European Pressurised Water Reactors (EPWR); supporting infrastructure of cooling water tunnels, fuel and waste management facilities and transmission equipment; a sea wall, National Grid 400kV substation; staff facilities; a public information centre; and temporary accommodation for workers. A separate application for consent to construct a temporary jetty and related harbour works has also been submitted to the Marine Management Organisation, and an application to compulsorily acquire certain land interests required for the jetty has been submitted to the Secretary of State.

The new power station could provide low carbon electricity for approximately 5 million homes, or more than 6% of the UK's requirement, and help to achieve the Government's climate change targets. As a multi-billion pound investment, Hinkley Point C will also create significant economic opportunities for local people and businesses during its construction and operation.

Our aims are to minimise the local impacts of this project, contribute to the strategies of the relevant local authorities and provide sustainable legacy benefits for the local communities.

However, building a new power station at Hinkley Point will potentially affect the lives of those living in communities close to the main site through, for example: construction operations; increased traffic; visual impact; loss of public access to parts of the site; environmental impacts; and pressure on existing community infrastructure.

In addition to construction of the power station, off-site developments are proposed near the M5 (Junctions 23 and 24), in Bridgwater, Cannington, Williton and at Combeville. These developments may include some or all of: accommodation for workers; park & ride and freight management facilities. People living nearby could potentially be affected by, for example: construction operations; increased traffic; visual impact; environmental impacts; and pressure on existing community infrastructure.

The potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the building and operation of the power station and off-site developments include: potential impacts on local geology; the Somerset coast line; water and air quality; drainage and flood risk; local ecology and wildlife; landscape and visual amenity; archaeology and cultural heritage; rights of way; noise and vibration; and transportation and socio-economic impacts. Full details of the proposals are available on the website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info

The Planning Process

EDF Energy will apply to the independent Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), established under the Planning Act 2008, for consent to construct, operate and maintain the power station and associated development. The IPC's decision must be made in accordance with national policy but will take account of the local impacts of the proposals.

Before the IPC will accept an application, it must be satisfied that EDF Energy has conducted effective pre-application consultation. The pre-application consultation will also be important in relation to the examination process after the application has been accepted by the IPC.

The Government proposes to abolish the IPC and replace it with a Major Infrastructure Planning Unit but the relevant legislation is not expected to come into force until 2012.

Environmental Information

EDF Energy's proposals for Hinkley Point C constitute a development requiring assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment and we have already made available preliminary environmental information in relation to our Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals'. EDF Energy published further preliminary environmental information about the 'Somersetfield' site and the proposed further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area on 1 July 2011, which is available to download from the project website (www.edfenergyconsultation.info), in hard copy at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office (14 King Square, Bridgwater TA6 3DG) and at the public exhibitions.

Related Consultations

National Grid has already undertaken consultation in relation to new transmission lines in Somerset and it is likely that it will undertake further consultation during 2011. Sedgemoor District Council consulted on an outline planning application for the 'Bridgwater Gateway' site in early 2011 and this application remains undetermined. West Somerset Council is due to consider EDF Energy's application for site preparation work at Hinkley Point C at Committee on 28 July 2011. Further details are given in EDF Energy's published 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area: Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation'.

Consultation Timetable and Responses

EDF Energy consulted on its Stage 1 'Initial Proposals and Options' for Hinkley Point C from 16 November 2009 until 18 January 2010, in line with the SOCC published in November 2009. Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals' consultation was carried out between 9 July 2010 and 4 October 2010, in line with the updated SOCC published in June 2010. The Stage 2 'Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals' consultation took place between 25 February 2011 and 28 March 2011, in line with the SOCC published in February 2011.

EDF Energy has consulted the local community informally on the plans for the 'Somersetfield' site and the proposed further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area since 1 July 2011, in parallel with consultation with statutory consultees under section 47 and with the general public under section 48 of the Planning Act 2008.

This stage of formal pre-application consultation will start formally on 15 July 2011. Responses should be submitted to EDF Energy by 12 August 2011 using the Contact Information shown below. We may be required to make these representations available to the IPC.

EDF Energy will respond to comments received during all stages of its pre-application consultation in a Final Consultation Report to be submitted to the IPC with the application for development consent for Hinkley Point C.

Scope of the Consultation

EDF Energy's consultation focuses on our proposal to potentially replace the existing proposal of a park and ride and freight management facility on the greenfield site near Junction 24 of the M5 with a similar facility on the nearby 'Somersetfield' site, including a temporary induction centre and a temporary consolidation facility for courier services, as well as potential further highway improvements in the Bridgwater area.

We are seeking views only on these proposed changes as set out in the consultation document, 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area', first published on 1 July 2011, which is available from the project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info or by contacting EDF Energy (see Contact Information below).

The principle of whether or not there is a need for a new nuclear power station, and whether Hinkley Point is a suitable site, will be determined by Parliament in accordance with the NPS.

The views of the local community, local authorities, other statutory consultees and members of the general public expressed through this consultation will all be influential in shaping our application to the IPC. However, EDF Energy does not consider what is practical and achievable in terms of delivering a new nuclear power station.

Those living and working closest to the proposed changes (including in the Parishes of North Petherton and Bridgwater), are the focus of this consultation.

We have informed local communities and their representatives about the consultation through the distribution of a newsletter within the previously established Hinkley Point C consultation area, local press advertising, local media coverage and via our project website, www.edfconsultation.info (see 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area: Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation').

Consultation Programme

EDF Energy's consultation with the local community started informally on 1 July 2011 and ran until 14 July 2011. During this informal consultation period EDF Energy has:

- Notified those who responded to our previous consultations about this proposed change to our 'Preferred Proposals' and how they can respond to the consultation;
- Published the consultation document: 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area' on the project website, www.edfenergyconsultation.info;
- Made copies of the consultation document available in hard copy form at all public events and in Somerset libraries, as well as Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor;
- Circulated our newsletter, 'Hinkley Point C: News from EDF Energy', to over 46,000 households and stakeholders;
- Advertised the consultation and the public exhibitions in local newspapers and issued a statement to the local media;
- Held a public exhibition on Monday 11 July 2011 at the Sedgemoor Auction Centre for people living and working in the vicinity of the two possible Junction 24 sites;
- Put the exhibition material on public display from 11 July 2011 at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office;
- Offered to meet with both North Petherton Parish Council and Bridgwater Town Council; and
- Consulted at a meeting of EDF Energy's Hinkley Point C Community Forum.

During the period of formal consultation from 15 July to 12 August 2011, EDF Energy will additionally:

- Hold public exhibitions on Saturday 16 July 2011 at Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 3TD from 10am to 4pm and on Thursday 21 July 2011 at Bridgwater Town Hall, High Street, Bridgwater, TA6 3AS, from 12pm to 8pm;
- Advertise these events in advance in local newspapers, through this SOCC and by notifying the local media;
- Continue to make the exhibition material available for public inspection throughout the consultation period at EDF Energy Bridgwater office, 14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours;
- Continue to make copies of the consultation document available in hard copy form at all public events and in Somerset libraries, as well as Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor;
- Offer to meet with representatives of the business community and housing tenants in Bridgwater; and
- Consult at a meeting of EDF Energy's Transport Forum.

Copies of the consultation document 'Hinkley Point C: Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals including M5 Junction 24 and Highway Improvements in the Bridgwater Area' will be available at the public events and can be obtained from EDF Energy (see Contact Information below).

The consultation document will also be translated, on request, into minority languages used locally and an interpretation service is available. The document will be available on request in large print format. EDF Energy will also undertake home visits, on request, to those with mobility issues who are directly affected by our proposals.

Next Steps

Following the close of this consultation, EDF Energy will consider the public and stakeholder response before adjusting and finalising its application for submission to the IPC. A detailed Final Consultation Report, explaining how the responses to the consultation have influenced the final proposals, will accompany the application.

EDF Energy will also undertake an information exercise, following acceptance of its application for development consent by the IPC, providing details of its final proposals for Hinkley Point C.

Contact Information

For further information, please contact EDF Energy in one of the following ways:

- Visit the EDF Energy Bridgwater office at 14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours (Monday-Friday, 9am to 5pm, excluding public holidays)
- Call Freephone 0800 169 6507* or 01278 444 600
- Website: www.edfenergyconsultation.info
- Email: enquiries@edfenergyconsultation.info*
- Write to FREEPOST CONSULTATION RESPONSE (no further stamp or address required)*

*These details will put you in touch with PPS, who are managing the public consultation process on behalf of EDF Energy.