



Meeting Report

Regarding:

EDF Energy Hinkley Point: Community Forum

Date:

9 December 2010

Attending:

Alan Ladd *Chairman*
Cecily Collingridge *Ashleigh Avenue Residents Association*
Jenny Lawrence *Somerset Racial Equality Council*
Stephen Bray *HSE Nuclear Directorate*
Mike Fackrell *Cannington CofE Primary School*
Lesley Flash *Stogursey Parish Plan*
Peter Malim OBE *Stogursey Parish Council*
Sue Goss *WHAG/Stogursey Primary School*
Malcolm Hogg *Nether Stowey Parish Council*
Trevor Howes *Civil Nuclear Constabulary*
Ann Blaxland *Bridgwater Civic Society*
Tom Blaxland *Bridgwater Civic Society*
Lynda Laird *Cannington Parish Council*
Colin Allen *Cannington Parish Council*
Crispin Aubrey *Agenda 21*
Allan Jeffery *Stop Hinkley*
Andrew Goodchild *West Somerset Council*
Keith Cattell *Mendip Society*
Paul Gripton *Otterhampton Parish Council*
Mark Bacon *Cannington Primary School*
Alan Beasley *Save Cannington Action Group*
Stewart Brock *NHS Somerset*
Stuart Hill *Bridgwater Bay Wildfowl Association*
Rob Graham *[on behalf of National Grid]*

Mike Short *Fiddington Parish Council and HPSSG*
Keith Talintyre *Otterhampton C. P School*
James Holbrook *Arup/West Somerset Council*
Jenny Dunwood *Arup/Sedgemoor District Council*
David Eccles *EDF Energy*
Alex Kaufman *EDF Energy*
Ian Bryant *EDF Energy*
Gordon Bell *EDF Energy*
Andrew Buroni *RPS Group*
Charles St George *PPS*
Andrew Smith *PPS*

Apologies

Christopher Morgan *West Somerset District Council*
Brian West *Kilve Parish Council*
Christopher Durham *RAC Foundation*
Doug Bamsey *Sedgemoor District Council*
Brian Payne *Environment Agency*
Kevin Baker *Environment Agency*
Rosemary Dowie *TENONS Highways Agency*
Ian Liddell *Grainger MP*
David Loveridge *Sedgemoor District Council*
Anne Fraser *Sedgemoor District Council*

Item**1. Introductions**

Alan Ladd (AL) welcomed those attending and asked attendees to introduce themselves and the organisations they represent. He also reminded participants of the terms of reference of the Forum, following complaints after the previous meeting that discussions had strayed outside those terms, which relate specifically to proposals for Hinkley Point C. General discussion about the merits of nuclear power was outside the scope of this Forum.

The running order was amended, bringing item 6 on preliminary works forward to before item 4.

2. Minutes

Alan proposed two matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting should be 'rolled into' the body of the meeting.

The Chair decided that an issue over the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting should be discussed under Any Other Business.

3. Matters arising

Actions in the previous meeting report:

- Item 6. PPS to outline findings of MSS market research; this was covered under agenda item 8
- Item 7. EDF Energy to explain how it will continue to communicate prior to submission of the IPC



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application; this was dealt with by Alex Kaufman under agenda item 7.

6. Preliminary works applications

WSC's Andrew Goodchild (AG) circulated information on how details of the preliminary site preparation works application would be made available; and then talked through these details supported by a short set of slides. Details will be available at four locations (including WSC's Williton reception) as well as online. His team would be dropping off copies to parish clerks; and stated they would also be available from EDF's Bridgwater office. He explained two public meetings would be held: at Stogursey Victory Hall 17th December and Cannington College 5th January; these, he said, were an unusual step over-and-above what would normally be done.

He stated all comments needed to be with his team by 12th January, but that comments received after then may still be taken into account provided the application had not yet been determined. He said they would be unable to acknowledge receipt, but comments would be publicly available at the Council.

A concern was raised about a problem previously experienced with the Council's email comment form. AG said he would check with his IT team, but offered reassurance it had been tested.

EDF Energy's head of planning Ian Bryant gave an update on the site preparation element of the preliminary works. He clarified the two separate applications he was referring to: the jetty and site preparation.

The application for the jetty had been lodged today (9 December) with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). EDF Energy expects a decision in the latter half of 2011. A link to the application on the MMO website will be put up on the Hinkley Point C website. IB confirmed MMO is the consenting authority, and that WSC is a consultee.

The site preparation works application had now gone to WSC accompanied by an environmental impact assessment. He explained these works relate to the site of the proposed Hinkley Point C power station and that vegetation would be cleared and the site terraced to establish appropriate levels. If WSC approves, work would start March 2011, he said. This work would take about 15 months.

He gave details of the works, explaining that Green Lane would be retained. The proposed on-site campus is not part of the site preparation works application, but will fall within the main IPC application.

The site had been designed to keep reasonable separation between homes and activity to keep noise and disturbance down. EDF Energy had prepared a detailed environmental management plan which will help implement controls once work is underway, and that it was expected WSC would set planning conditions to underpin the plan. When asked for more detail, he reiterated EDF Energy would be working with WSC on these aspects.

He highlighted changes to footpaths explaining that some will need to be closed on a temporary basis including the coastal footpath for the duration of the works. There will, however, be footpaths along both sides of the site leading to the foreshore, including a new footpath to the east and one to the south, so walkers still have access to the coast. Clarification was sought on changes to access rights. IB said he would provide more detail. **ACTION – EDF ENERGY**

IB detailed proposed working hours: 7am to 6pm weekdays, 7am to 1pm Saturdays, no work Sundays or Bank Holidays. This was, he said, aimed at minimising impact on local communities. He confirmed there would not be double shifts as part of the site preparation works, but that details for the main station build had not yet been set.

A concern was raised about the time (up to five years) it would take to reinstate the land if the IPC application was refused. He said the land would be re-instated should the final IPC application fail but acknowledged this would take time.

Reassurance was sought that lay-by parking for walkers along the edge of the site would remain available – particularly as new roundabouts would be installed – and that safety concerns would be addressed. IB said he would come back with more detail. **ACTION – EDF ENERGY.**

Concerns were raised about the 12th January WSC deadline for feedback. AG explained an extra week had been allowed for the Christmas break, but confirmed he would take later comments, for example local groups/Parish



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Councils who were unable to meet in time to respond. He asked that Parish Councils/local groups should notify the planners via email in advance if they had problems with this deadline.

Concern was raised about the relocation of badgers; that doing so before planning permission was granted was unusual. IB clarified that badgers have been relocated with full consent from Natural England, and that EDF Energy had built new sets which have been successfully taken to.

A question was raised about depths of foundation excavation. IB explained that unit one would be excavated down to +3 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and unit 2 +6 m AOD. The ground level will be +14 AOD [note: Ordnance Datum is the reference height used on Ordnance Survey maps, and is usually mean sea level].

Regards reinstating the site, IB explained the existing site undulations would be restored, and site replanted and that given time, an improvement to the ecology and amenity of the site is expected. He acknowledged it would take time for nature to fully recoup, but that it would happen. He said EDF had an excellent record of environmental management of non-operational land around its sites including the land around Hinkley B.

A question was raised about the levels of traffic resulting from the preliminary works, particularly through Cannington. As part of the application IB said a lot of work had been done to understand impact of traffic. The movement of materials for the preliminary works are expected to come via M5 and Bridgwater, but peak times will be avoided. It is expected an average of around 300 workers will be travelling to the site during the 15 month construction phase; although EDF Energy is expecting to get up to 60% local labour, the majority will still travel through Cannington. Measures will be taken to reduce traffic, including encouraging car sharing. A further issue was raised that materials for the jetty would come via road, and that it was important all traffic figures were considered together despite the separate planning applications. AG said WSC will see all the figures for the MMO application too as it is a consultee – and that the MMO application would be made available. Safety concerns relating to increased traffic were raised; IB agreed safety was very important.

Concern was voiced about the removal of asbestos from the site – and about the movement of soil and materials around the site more broadly. IB confirmed it is expecting to remove about 5,000m³ of spoil containing an amount of asbestos from the site. Additional concern was expressed that old spoil moved around and outside the site might be contaminated, and that this could pose a risk; IB stated contamination had only been identified in the north east corner of the site on land that had formerly been used to construct the A and B stations. He also confirmed that full radiological investigations had been undertaken. A request was made to Andrew Goodchild to pay close attention to contamination and radiological matters.

In response to a suggestion to bring the main station further away from the water, IB said this was not tenable, as it would render it too far away from water for cooling; doing so would also bring it closer to where people live. IB added that the foreshore would be largely undisturbed, but that it was necessary to build a protecting sea wall and accommodate a temporary jetty. Further clarification was requested on the logic for the positioning of the site in relation to its proximity to the water. **ACTION EDF ENERGY**

A view was expressed that no feedback had been given from stage 2 consultation. EDF's Alex Kaufman said a full response to all questions/issues raised would be included in the consultation report. David Eccles offered to discuss the issue further after the meeting.

4. Consultation on community health action plan

Dr Andrew Buroni (AB) from RPS Group, working for EDF Energy, explained the Health Action Plan which forms part of the IPC application process, and which has included working with the Primary Care Trust on various health initiatives. He outlined an additional initiative specifically for the four local hamlets closest to the main site (Shurton, Burton, Knighton and Wick). The intention – he explained – is to identify local health (and wellbeing) issues, which might be able to be supported. As part of this process, RPS Group has produced a survey for those hamlets to be posted to all households.

A number of concerns were expressed about what – and who - the initiative was for. AB agreed to rename the document to make it clear that it applied directly to these hamlets before it was circulated. It was also agreed that a copy of the questionnaire should be provided to the Parish Council.

Stewart Brook of NHS Somerset clarified it was part of a broader initiative.



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5. Update on investigative works
David Eccles (DE) updated the Forum on investigative works, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geological work is being done on the Cannington bypass route until Christmas• Work on Bridgwater and at the rugby club, to understand the geology, will start at the beginning 2011.
7. Next steps in the planning process
<p>EDF Energy's Alex Kaufman (AK) – responding to the action carried over from the previous meeting – updated the Forum on the consultation timetable. Stage 2 had run, she said, from July to Oct 4th; since that time all the data was being analysed. As part of that analysis, EDF Energy had concluded some material changes were needed, so it proposes to undertake a further consultation in Spring 2011. She emphasised this would not be a wholesale consultation, but very specific to those material changes. EDF Energy would, she said, be able to give timings in early 2011, working closely with the local authorities. EDF Energy would produce and release a new Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) and that the DCO application would follow this additional stage during 2011.</p> <p>A number of questions were raised about both the timing and content of those material changes. AK said it will all be set out in the consultation, but EDF Energy was not able to give detail at this stage. She said the consultation would be a minimum 28 day period; that the IPC application was expected to be made in the summer of 2011; and that 2018 remained the target date for the reactor completion.</p> <p>There were concerns raised about the changes and lack of information at this stage. David Eccles reiterated that the details would be set out in the consultation documentation.</p> <p>A question was raised about when responses to stage 2 consultation report would be published; AK said this would be done alongside the DCO application.</p> <p>A concern was raised that acknowledgments of receipt of comments had not been made; PPS' Charles St George said everyone who had made a comment had been contacted. AK said every comment will be responded to formally through the consultation report.</p>
8. MSS research
PPS' Charles St George outlined the summary conclusions of the report by independent market researchers MSS assessing the results of exit interviews with attendees at public exhibitions during stage 2 consultation. A full copy of the MSS research findings was available at the meeting. This was an action from the previous meeting.
9. AoB
<p>Two members of the Forum said they had not received draft copies of the previous minutes and were, therefore, unable to comment on them. The problem appeared to stem from the fact that the draft minutes were circulated to all those attending as a single group email and some of those copied in had not received their copies. PPS therefore agreed to send emails individually to members in future to overcome this technical issue. ACTION – PPS</p> <p>One member asked for the minutes to be altered to reflect her comments, but the Chair said this was not possible as the minutes had already been approved. She provided the Chair and PPS with a copy of her comments.</p> <p>A request was made for a public meeting (through Stogursey Parish Council) by those residents of Shurton Burton and Wick hamlets who had received mitigation offer letters from EDF Energy. EDF Energy said it believed drop-in meetings were more effective in tackling private issues about property. After concerns were raised that this was not sufficient, nor what villagers wanted (partly because public meetings ensured communities shared their views and had the same understanding), David Eccles agreed to consider this request. ACTION - EDF ENERGY</p> <p>It was acknowledged that recent deliveries for the B station at Combwich Wharf had been a significant improvement and EDF was commended for its efforts to minimise impact in respect of responding to concerns previously raised.</p>
10. Future meeting dates



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<p data-bbox="89 264 622 302">Two dates were agreed for future meetings:</p> <ul data-bbox="140 297 778 369" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="140 297 778 336">• 3 March 2011 at Hinkley Point B Training Centre.<li data-bbox="140 331 778 369">• 12 May 2011 at Cannington College