



Meeting Report

Regarding:

EDF Energy Hinkley Point: Community Forum

Date:

12 November 2009

Attending:

Nigel Knee *EDF Energy*
Gordon Bell *EDF Energy*
Simon Dunford *EDF Energy*
Liam Herbert *PPS*
Ruth Stacey *PPS*
Charles St George *PPS*
Alan Ladd *Chairman*
Andrew Goodchild *West Somerset Council*
Glen Gillespie *Natural England*
Neil Pack *Somerset County Council*
Alyn Jones *Somerset County Council*
David Harper *Bridgwater College*
Lynda Laird *Cannington Parish Council*
Colin Allen *Cannington Parish Council*
Jo Brown *Parents Concerned About Hinkley*
Keith Talintyre *Otterhampton Primary School*
Mike Caswell *Stockland Bristol Parish and Vice Chair of the Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group*
John Edney *Somerset County Council*
Chris Morgan *West Somerset Council*
Roger Webber *Exmoor National Park*

Phillip Ham *Parret IDB*
Peter Braine *Bridgwater and District Civic Society*
Allan Jeffery *Stop Hinkley*
Kevin Baker *Environment Agency*
Doug Bamsey *Sedgemoor District Council*
Iain Sturdy *Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium*
Granville Roberts *Environment Agency*
Malcolm Hogg *Nether Stowey Parish Council*
Sue Goss *Stogursey Parish Council*
Lesley Flash *Stogursey Parish Plan*
Ian Liddell-Grainger *MP*
Chinks Grylb *Nether Stowey Resident*
Robin Seawer *Over Stowey Resident*
Stuart Hill *Bridgwater Bay Wild Fowlers Association*
Charles Graham *Green Party*
Becky Feltham *National Grid*
S Brook *NHS Somerset*
Christopher Durham *RAC Foundation*
Barry Pearce *South West Planning Aid*
Rachel Davis *Somerset College of Arts and Technology*

Item**Action****1. Introductions**

Alan Ladd introduced himself as the new independent chair of the Community Forum, outlining his experience in business and the local community. He noted specifically that he has not worked in the energy sector, nuclear industry or for EDF Energy. He also noted that EDF Energy is paying him to act as chair for this committee.

AL then noted the Terms of Reference for the Community Forum which had been defined and agreed at the previous meeting.

AL then asked everyone to introduce themselves to the meeting.

2. Minutes and Matters arising

In response to matters arising from the minutes CstG reported that:

- i) Invitations to Burham-on-Sea and Highbridge Town Council and Bridgwater Town Council had been sent.



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- ii) The minutes of the last meeting were available on the EDF Energy Consultation website.
- iii) The Planning Aid South West engagement events had been publicised in the October issue of the EDF Energy newsletter.
- iv) Copies of the Strategic Siting Assessment have been made available at this meeting
- v) A reading list of scientific studies citing health concerns about nuclear power from Parents Concerned about Hinkley is now available via a link on the EDF Energy Consultation website. In addition links to accredited scientific responses to these reports have also been included in response to a request at the meeting.
- vi) Links to the EDF development at Flamanville are being added to the website

3. Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) Process

NK gave an introduction to the IPC process and the publication of the National Policy Statements on Nuclear Energy, which was published by DECC this week. A link to the DECC website has been included on the EDF Energy Consultation website.

NK noted that the National Policy Statements (NPS) define a requirement for 60Gw of electricity generation for the UK by 2025 of which 25Gw should come from low carbon generation. The Government has confirmed that new nuclear generation should be free to compete towards this 25Gw. It has also stated that the IPC as part of its consideration on applications should give the need and benefits of nuclear meeting this demand full weight.

Comments and questions on the IPC and the DECC NPS noted:

- What size is Hinkley compared to the other sites nominated – if all sites nominated have new nuclear this adds up to more than 25Gw. NK noted that Hinkley is “in the middle of the pack”. The Government did not look at the number of units on each site or how many sites may gain approval.
- AG noted that the IPC is not able to consider an application before the 1 March 2010 so any applications before then still go to the local authority. He noted that West Somerset is also anticipating an application in February 2010 from EDF Energy on the preliminary works.
- CstG noted that DECC is holding a consultation event on 20/21/22 November, including a public session where speakers must register in advance.
- RW pointed out there are four planning authorities involved including Exmoor National Park who should be consulted about the plans. NK – the three local authorities – Sedgemoor, Somerset and West

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Somerset will prepare an Impact Report as part of the consultation process. The authorities bordering these councils will participate in this process – this will include Exmoor National Park, North Somerset and Taunton Deane.

- CM said that he thought that the consultation would run until the end of March 2010 not early January 2010 as noted in this presentation. NK – EDF Energy is consulting in two stages so that everyone has an opportunity to see all the options under consideration.
- Stage 2 will not be finalised proposal it will be a more defined proposal based on the Initial Options and Proposals which is EDF Energy's early thoughts and where it is seeking views on the impacts. NK noted that the IPC will not review the provision of national policy so if people want to comment on these issues they need to engage with the DECC consultation. The IPC details are included on the EDF Energy website and the November issue of the newsletter.

4. Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) and EDF Energy's Stage One Consultation: Initial Proposals and Options

CstG gave a presentation on the SOCC and the first round of consultation on options which commences 16 November 2009.

The SOCC is a high level plan which defines the pre-application consultation. It has been in development since June in consultation with the three local councils.

The SOCC also defines the zones of consultation activity so that EDF Energy can target its activity based on the closeness to the proposed site. The zones are used to denote where EDF Energy will have events and materials will be distributed. The zones were discussed and agreed with the three local councils and Planning Aid South West and reflect the geography of the area.

- BP of Planning Aid South West noted that it would be helpful to have a clear statement about what is part of the IPC application and what is covered by the related applications to the local authorities. NK reported that the Proposal Summary Document will show this detail and this will also be reflected at each of the exhibitions. However in summary the main development and associated on and off-site development will form the IPC application. The preliminary works for a temporary jetty, site preparation and sea wall will form a separate application to West Somerset Council.
- AG noted that discussions on these applications were already underway with West Somerset.
- BP asked what measures were being taken to ensure that all comments received will be logged and reported to the IPC. CstG noted that all the questionnaires completed – either online or at exhibitions – will be collated into a consultation database managed

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on behalf of EDF Energy by PPS. This system could be opened up to the local councils for them to track consultation responses.

- BP requested that a numbering system be incorporated so that people commenting could be given a reference number and ensure their comments are included.
- One participant added- What level of information will be available? SD reported that the Proposal Document – the full version of what EDF Energy is proposing – has a lot of detail and should offer answers to most questions.
- Another member asked whether comments from one party would be available for others to see? NK reported that comments will not be available during the first stage process but will be published in a report at the end of stage one.
- CG pointed out there are lots of consultations going on, will comments be aggregated? CStG said EDF Energy has an informal agreement with National Grid and DECC that comments relating to their consultations will be sent to each other. The “route map” published by EDF Energy will point people in the right direction to make comments.
- LL Asked How strict will the recording of comments be by zone and why are we not giving different weight to responses from communities most affected? SD – People closer to the development – like those in Stogursey – will have more say in their area. We shall be gathering postcode data at each event.
- BP of Planning Aid South West asked what efforts has been made to encourage younger people to participate in the Community Forum?

CstG noted that EDF Energy has held a strong event at Bridgwater College

40/50 16 to 18yr olds involved in a workshop to discuss the local issues and this will continue throughout the process. Following up with another event at West Somerset College.

Under stage two the objective will be to close off all areas where we have identified gaps In addition we are organising focus groups to get to hard to reach areas in Sedgemoor.

BP noted that this was helpful but not what was asked. What efforts had been made to get younger people – 20 to 40s – involved in this community forum?

SD noted that this style of forum was not how this age group tends to engage. He noted that social media was how we could most directly engage in this area to gain views and opinions.

Equally, most people attending the forum represented organisations which

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young people did not tend to either engage with or participate in.

Action: EDF Energy to review actions and initiatives to encourage 20-40 yr old age group to engage with the consultation process and where practicable the Community Forum. This to include proposals for digital engagement during Phase Two consultation

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PPS/EDFE

5. Related Consultations

A report on other consultations taking place during the same period was presented.

- i) National Grid – consulting on route corridors until 8 Jan 2010
- ii) Environment Agency – consulting on Shoreline Management at Hinkley Point and Hartland Point. Full details at www.ndascga.org
- iii) DECC – dates and details as noted earlier in the meeting – this consultation concludes on 22 Feb 2010.

6. Any Other Business

GB noted that plans to bring in a new transformer for Hinkley Point B had been delayed. This will come in via Combwich Wharf – once we have a new time full details will be circulated locally and through the parish councils.

7. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7pm Thursday 10 December 2009 at Hinkley Point B Training Centre.