

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

Save today. Save tomorrow.



## 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 June 2010.

It sets out how NNB 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 material changes to its proposals for a new nuclear power station, known as Hinkley Point C.

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, 'Hinkley Point C Proposed Changes to 'Preferred Proposals': Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation', has also been published to accompany this SOCC and is available from the project website, [www.edfenergyconsultation.info](http://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 Revised Draft National Policy Statement for Nuclear Power Generation (NPS), published for consultation in October 2010, describes the need for new nuclear power stations and identifies Hinkley Point as one of the sites potentially suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station by the end of 2025. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, continuing Parliamentary scrutiny and final ratification by Parliament, the Government intends to finalise and then formally designate (adopt) the NPS in 2011.

### 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 Hinkley Point C development site consists of the permanent power station as well as temporary facilities required during construction. This includes: two UK EPR reactor units; cooling water infrastructure and associated works; staff and storage facilities; fuel and waste management facilities; overhead transmission infrastructure; a sea wall; National Grid 400kV substation; a public information centre; site preparation works 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 more than 6% of the UK's requirement; approximately 5 million homes. 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 Hinkley Point C 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 associated developments are proposed near the M5 (Junctions 23 and 24), in Bridgwater, Cannington, Williton and at Combwich Wharf. These developments may include some or all of: accommodation for workers; park & ride; freight management facilities; postal consolidation facility; an induction centre; Cannington bypass; redevelopment of Combwich Wharf and highway improvement works. 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 construction, operation and where appropriate post operational uses of the power station and off-site associated 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.

### 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 impact of a proposal.

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 April 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' including information about proposed land restoration, landscaping and other potential mitigation or compensatory measures for the impact of the proposals on natural habitats.

### 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. West Somerset and Sedgemoor District Councils are planning to consult on a draft Hinkley Point Nuclear Supplementary Planning Document from 24 February 2011. West Somerset Council may also undertake further consultation in relation to our application for site preparation works on the Hinkley Point C site during our consultation period. There may also be further consultation in relation to our applications for preliminary works on the Hinkley Point C site during our consultation period. Where possible, we will take account of these related consultations and co-ordinate our consultation events. Further details are given in EDF Energy's published 'Hinkley Point C Proposed Changes to 'Preferred Proposals': 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.

This stage of pre-application consultation on EDF Energy's 'Hinkley Point C: Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals' will start on 25 February 2011. Responses should be submitted to EDF Energy by 28 March 2011 using the Contact Information shown below. We may be required to make these representations available to the IPC.

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

### Scope of the Consultation

EDF Energy's 'Hinkley Point C: Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals' consultation will focus on:

- Material changes proposed to be made to our proposals and additional information published since the close of Stage 2 consultation on our 'Preferred Proposals'.
- Other matters where we would welcome further views on certain aspects of our proposals, including comments on any new material published since the close of our Stage 2 consultation. This new material is outlined in EDF Energy's published 'Hinkley Point C: Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals'.

EDF Energy will be seeking the views of the public and stakeholders on these updated proposals. 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 through the NPS.

While the views of the local community will be influential in shaping EDF Energy's application to the IPC, EDF Energy must also take into account the views of local authorities and other statutory consultees, and consider what is practical and achievable in terms of delivering a new nuclear power station.

Public consultation will be undertaken within the following zones:

- '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
- '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

Further explanation of the consultation strategy and programme is given in: 'Hinkley Point C Proposed Changes to 'Preferred Proposals': Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation'.



Indicative map showing consultation zones

## Consultation Programme

Consultation events will be held within the 'Inner Zone' with public exhibitions, staffed by members of the EDF Energy project team, held at the times and in the locations shown below:

| Date                      | Time     | Venue  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Saturday 26 February 2011 | 12pm-4pm | Danesfield School, Williton, TA4 4SW                                 |
| Monday 28 February 2011   | 2pm-8pm  | Sedgemoor Hall, Sedgemoor Auction Centre, North Pethererton, TA6 6DF |
| Tuesday 1 March 2011      | 2pm-8pm  | Otterhampton Village Hall, TA5 2QS                                   |
| Wednesday 2 March 2011    | 2pm-8pm  | Victory Hall, Stogursey, TA5 1PR                                     |
| Thursday 3 March 2011     | 2pm-8pm  | The Exchange, Bridgwater, TA6 4RR                                    |
| Friday 4 March 2011       | 2pm-8pm  | The Main Hall, Bridgwater College, Cannington, TA5 2LS               |
| Saturday 5 March 2011     | 10am-4pm | Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 3TQ                     |

The exhibition material will be on public display at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office, 14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours, during the consultation period.

A meeting of EDF Energy's Hinkley Point C Community Forum will also take place during the consultation period and meetings will be held with Parish/Town Councils and other community groups where necessary and appropriate.

To ensure the wider community are kept informed, EDF Energy will publicise details of this consultation programme, its updated proposals, how people can respond and key outcomes from the consultation in its newsletter 'Hinkley Point: News from EDF Energy' distributed to over 35,000 households and stakeholders in the affected communities and on the project website, [www.edfenergyconsultation.info](http://www.edfenergyconsultation.info). Public consultation events will be advertised in local newspapers through this SOCC and we will also notify the local media.

We will send this newsletter to those within the 'Middle' and 'Outer' zones, including Parish/Town Councils and other key stakeholders, who responded to our consultation during Stages 1 and 2 about this consultation.

A succinct document 'Hinkley Point C: Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals' will be made available from 25 February 2011 in hard copy form at all public events, in Somerset libraries, and Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor.

Consultation material will also be available to inspect:

- In hard copy form at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office (14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG), at West Somerset Council's offices (West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset, TA4 4QA) and at Sedgemoor District Council's offices (Bridgwater House, King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3AR) during their published opening hours
- On a DVD at all libraries in Somerset and Council offices/tourist information centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor
- By downloading from the project website, [www.edfenergyconsultation.info](http://www.edfenergyconsultation.info)

A summary of the document 'Hinkley Point C: Update on and Proposed Changes to the Preferred Proposals' will be translated into minority languages widely used locally and an interpretation service is available on request. This summary document will also be available on request in large print format.

### 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 submission of its application for development consent to the IPC, providing details of its final proposals for Hinkley Point C. This will assist understanding of the proposals and facilitate the examination of EDF Energy's application that the IPC will undertake. Further information on this exercise is provided in 'Hinkley Point C Proposed Changes to 'Preferred Proposals': Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation'.

### 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](http://www.edfenergyconsultation.info);
- Email: [enquiries@edfconsultation.info](mailto:enquiries@edfconsultation.info)\*; and
- 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.