

Sizewell C Strategic Planning Liaison Group Meeting

12 – 2pm, 3 July 2013

Attendees

SCC	Bryn Griffiths	- Assistant Director of Economy, Skills and Environment
	John Pitchford	- Spatial Planning and Sub Regional Partnerships Manager
SCDC	Philip Ridley	- Head of Planning
	Bob Chamberlain	- Principal Planner (Major Projects)
EDF Energy	Richard Mayson	- Director of Planning & External Affairs
	Stephen Walls	- Head of Sizewell C Project
	Tim Norwood	- Chief Planning Officer
	Tom McGarry	- Communications Manager

Meeting Minutes

Item 1 Approval of Minutes and Action Review

The minutes of the 23rd April Project Board meeting were approved subject to changes suggested by John Pitchford on page 1, item 1 and page 4, item 5.

Action Review

- EDF Energy and the Suffolk Councils to discuss the agenda ahead of the tripartite meeting with PINS. **Complete**
- Review current work requirements for the emergency planning work requirements. **Action: Offline discussion between SW, BC and PR**
- EDF Energy and the Suffolk Councils to agree the intent and management of joint working in 2013, including information on Council time spent on project coordination. **Complete (discussed under agenda point 4)**
- EDF Energy and Suffolk Councils to discuss the April Request for Expenditure forms. **Action: BC sending invoice**
- Coordinate next SSPLG Meeting **Complete**
- Changes for minutes of the SSPLG on 23 April. **Action: JP to send AG text.**

Item 2 EDF Energy Corporate Update

RM informed the meeting that EDF Energy welcomed the Chancellor's announcement on the Infrastructure guarantee.

In terms of progressing to FID for HPC, both the Government and EDF Energy are indicating that progress is being made on CFD negotiations and dialogue with potential investors is underway.

In the meantime, NNB is focussing on activity to cut costs and work on site at Hinkley has slowed down considerably.

Item 3 SCC and SCDC Update

BG noted the political changes at Suffolk County Council following the elections. SCC remains under Conservative control. The lead member for the County on JLAG is Cllr Richard Smith (Cabinet member for Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Waste). He will be joined on the group by Cllr Graham Newman (Highways and Transport), Cllr Lisa chambers (Deputy Leader and Skills), Cllr Andrew Reid and Cllr Stephen Burrows.

Discussion followed about the Suffolk Coast Energy Delivery Forum. **Action: BG, SW and RM to organise a meeting to discuss preparations for the meeting with DECC in August.**

PR raised the concerns expressed by Cllr Andy Smith over project resourcing. RM replied that a response to these concerns was sent to the local authorities three weeks ago and officers were copied in. **Action: TN to resend EDF Energy response to Stephen Baker's letter on project resourcing.**

Item 4 Sizewell C Work Schedule and Resourcing

SW provided a summary of activity completed since the last meeting. Dates have been fixed for a number of workshops and EDF Energy is pleased to have agreed the immediate programme with the local authorities. Agreement of the plan for each workshop will need to be achieved and BC has drafted a letter of intent from the councils on this subject which will be sent on to EDF Energy. SW indicated that the programme of activity for the rest of the year will be completed soon. Funding the workshops will be discussed at CPT meetings.

BG noted there was good feedback from design workshop. However, the local authorities remain concerned about levels of resourcing. The current level of activity is manageable but if a spike of activity arises the councils will not be able to fulfil their role as statutory consultees. A discussion in Autumn on the project office is something we should definitely do.

PR noted the full agreement from SCDC and the difficulty of properly resourcing the project. It is noted that finance is an issue for all of us but there is continuing pressure on local government funding, alongside the imminent retirement of BC.

RM responded by explaining that at some point we will have confirmed the CFD arrangements and progressed to FID. In advance of that we will have to have an internal debate on the point of mobilisation – in effect, how soon we will move the project forward at a faster rate. We are reasonably optimistic that we will remobilise the project but we will plan a steady ramp-up of activity rather than an immediate transition.

PR noted that discussions need to happen sooner rather than later when the time comes. This was echoed by BG who stated he cannot advise SCC members that they can operate as statutory consultees on this level of funding.

BC updated the meeting on progress with East Anglia Offshore Wind, noting that their socio-economic evidence will come to the inspector in the form of a letter of intent. BC noted that he has charged them for some time but the councils do not have a PPA in place with them and 'missed a trick with Galloper'.

BG raised the concerns of SCC members at the number of NSIPS impacting on Suffolk. There is a clear benefit from co-ordination across projects to assess in-combination impacts and to establish certainty on what will be needed and when.

ACTION: Discussion in early Autumn, aiming to be as definitive as we can about future requirements for the project.

Item 5 Any Other Business

RM thanked BC and wished him a happy retirement on behalf of EDF Energy.

AG to confirm date of next meeting.