

## Sizewell C

### Planning Performance Agreement 9th Project Board Meeting

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012

#### Attendees

<b>SCC</b>	Bryn Griffiths	- Assistant Director of Economy, Skills and Environment
	John Pitchford	- Spatial Planning and Sub Regional Partnerships Manager
<b>SCDC</b>	Stephen Baker	- Chief Executive
	Bob Chamberlain	- Principal Planner (Major Projects)
<b>Sizewell Project Office</b>	Paul Wood	- Project Manager
	Richard Mayson	- Director of Planning & External Affairs
<b>EDF Energy</b>	Stephen Walls	- Deputy Director, Planning & External Affairs
	Ian Bryant	- Head of Planning
	Tom McGarry	- Communications Manager
	Roy Collins	- Transport Manager
	Sheery Sassoon	- Planning Officer

#### Meeting Minutes

##### **Item 1 - Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the Project Board teleconference of August 2012 were approved.

##### **Item 2 – EDF Energy Corporate Up-date**

EDF Energy provided an update on its UK nuclear new build programme. Reference was made to Vincent de Rivaz's recent appearance before the Parliamentary Select Committee on Energy and Climate Change in connection with its review into progress on UK nuclear new build. EDF Energy indicated that good progress was being made in relation to resolving remaining issues necessary to secure a Generic Design Approval (GDA) for the UK EPR reactor design – the target remained to complete this by the end of 2012. Discussions with the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) were continuing in relation to details of the Funded Decommissioning Programme (FDP) arrangements and contract for difference arrangements relevant to an investment decision

on the Hinkley Point C (HPC) Project. It was anticipated that DECC would publish a draft Energy Bill in November which would contain key elements relating to electricity market reforms

### **Item 3 – Sizewell C Project Up-date**

EDF Energy indicated that good progress was being made in finalising the Stage 1 consultation documents ready for launch of Stage 1 consultation in November. The precise date for launch of the consultation had not been settled but would be confirmed shortly (*post meeting note – this was confirmed for 21 November*).

EDF Energy indicated that four documents would be published as part of the consultation – as follows:

- Summary Consultation Document
- Main Stage 1 Consultation Document
- Environmental Report
- Transport Strategy and Supporting Information

More generally EDF Energy indicated that work was continuing on the “enabling works” elements of the Sizewell C project – the existing ancillary Sizewell B station buildings which would need to be relocated as part of the Sizewell C project. In this context EDF Energy was in discussions with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) as regards the potential release of some Sizewell A station land as part of the decommissioning process.

In relation to the Galloper offshore wind farm project, EDF Energy indicated that it had reached an agreement with the developers of the Galloper project in respect of all land and related matters relevant to the connection of the Galloper project to the onshore electricity network. The details of this agreement had been communicated in a joint statement to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and this would be considered as part of their examination of the Galloper Project.

### **Item 4 – Suffolk Councils Key Issues**

#### Four Village Bypass

The Suffolk Councils handed EDF Energy a letter from Councillors Guy McGregor (Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Roads and Transport) and Andy Smith (Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Planning & Coastal Management) in relation the four villages bypass. The letter set out the Councillors view that a full four village bypass should form part of EDF Energy’s proposals for Sizewell C and that preparatory works were required now to ensure that the scheme was ready to be included in EDF Energy’s future DCO application for Sizewell C.

EDF Energy indicated that it recognised that there was a high level of interest in this issue locally. Any assessment of the traffic impacts of Sizewell C would need to be evidence based. EDF Energy's initial views would be set out in the Stage 1 consultation.

### Visual Impact of Sizewell C

The Suffolk Councils indicated that the visual impact of Sizewell C would be a significant issue during the consultation process. The appearance of Sizewell B was considered as a good example locally of how power station design could be successfully integrated into the landscape and it was hoped that the appearance of Sizewell C would be able to achieve a similar status. This could be in keeping with a wider approach which could seek to present Sizewell C as an "environmental exemplar" of what could be achieved in the context of a sensitive ecological and landscape environment.

EDF Energy indicated that the Stage 1 consultation would provide a visual montage of the appearance of Sizewell C. There would also be a physical model for public exhibitions. These montages and models would not include detail on the colour or architectural treatment of buildings which would be considered in more detail after Stage 1 and would be discussed further with the local planning authorities.

EDF Energy noted that the size and shape and many design aspects of the main power station buildings were an integral part of the UK EPR design which was subject to the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) process. These aspects would therefore need to replicate the Hinkley Point C Project.

### Statement of Community Consultation

The Suffolk Councils said that a key issue for them in relation to EDF Energy's proposed Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was the length of time proposed for Stage 1 consultation. The Suffolk Councils would wish to see a lengthier consultation period of around 12 weeks, as compared to the proposed 8 weeks. This would reflect the consideration that some of the consultation would run over the Christmas period and would also work better in terms of the timing of forthcoming Cabinet meetings and procedures for signing off the Council's response to the consultation.

EDF Energy indicated that the Suffolk Councils responses to the SoCC would be considered carefully (*post meeting note: EDF Energy subsequently extended the consultation period for Stage 1 to 11 weeks, ending on February 6 2012*)

### DECC meeting

The Suffolk Councils reported on a recent meeting with DECC officials. This had included a tour of the proposed Sizewell C site. The meeting had encompassed issues such as skills and training, impacts on the AONB, and transport impacts.

## **Item 5 Support for Town and Parish Councils**

EDF Energy and the Suffolk Councils reported on ongoing discussions regarding the provision of support for Town and Parish Councils in relation to responding to the Stage 1 consultation.

This engagement had led to reaching working agreement on an approach in which an independent consultant would be engaged via the PPA process to provide support to town and parish councils to assist with the preparation and finalisation of their responses to Stage 1. The principle of this agreement was approved by the Project Board with details on how this would operate to be progressed between respective teams.

## **Item 6 – Review of Work Packages and PPA issues**

It was noted that all PPA work packages had been updated to cover the next 6 month period up to the end of March 2013. The following points were noted in that context:

There was still a need to update the Communications and Community Engagement Work Package to reflect the position reached on support for Town and Parish Councils (see Item 4 above) – action **Sizewell C Project Office** (*post meeting note – the updated Communications and Community Engagement Work Package has received by EDF Energy and the expenditure limit of £34,985 is approved*).

On the Transport work package there had been some discussion around the likely cost of the review of initial traffic modelling. EDF Energy would shortly begin sending initial base and reference case models to SCC for review and this would be followed by initial with-development modelling once Stage 1 consultation was published. It was recognised that this would lead to an increase in work package costs which would need to be managed. A Protocol on traffic modelling review was being agreed with SCC. Agreement had been reached to increase the expenditure limit of the work package to just under £150k.

The work forecast under the Land and Water, Associated Development, Socio-Economics is within the existing expenditure limits of £49,106, £14,020 and £12,285 respectively.

New limits for the other existing Work Packages were agreed as follows:

- Environment – £41,075
- Transport – £148,359
- Programme Oversight and Development - £127,429

## **Item 7 – AOB**

The Suffolk Councils noted that a further JLAG Engagement Event was planned for January 15th. EDF Energy participation would be welcomed.

The next Project Board meeting will be taking place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January at SCDC's offices.