

Sizewell C

Planning Performance Agreement 5th Project Board Meeting

Date: 10 November 2011

Attendees

SCC	Bryn Griffiths, John Pitchford
SCDC	Stephen Baker, Bob Chamberlain, Philip Ridley
Sizewell Project Office	Paul Wood, Nicky Corbett
EDF Energy	Richard Mayson, Angela Pearce, Nick Lloyd-Davies, Tom McGarry, Roy Collins

Meeting Minutes

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Project Board meeting of 22 June 2011 were approved.

It was agreed that the post-meeting note under item 1 would be up-dated to reflect the adoption by Parliament of the National Policy Statements for Energy and Nuclear Power generation.

Item 1 – Up-date on Sizewell Project Timetable and Key Issues

EDF Energy provided an up-date on nuclear new build developments.

The major recent milestone in this area was that EDF Energy had finalised its submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Hinkley Point C Project – this had been submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) on 31st October. The IPC have a period of one month to decide whether to accept the application. If accepted, the submission documents would be made public and the full examination process would commence.

EDF Energy noted that the Hinkley Point application was one of the largest planning applications ever submitted in the UK – reflecting the size of the development and the significant number of associated developments.

EDF Energy noted that there had been a significant number of wider developments relevant to new nuclear build in the UK since the last Project Board meeting in June. These included:

- publication in July 2011 by the Government of proposals on Electricity Market Reform and adoption of a carbon price floor mechanism.
- the National Policy Statement (NPS) for nuclear power generation received Parliamentary approval in July 2011. This sets out the need for new nuclear generation at a national level and also identifies the sites at Hinkley Point and Sizewell as potentially suitable for development.
- West Somerset Council approved EDF Energy's application to begin preparatory works at Hinkley Point C in late July – subject to detailed finalisation of the section 106 agreement.
- The final report of Mike Weightman, HM Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations, into the implications for the UK nuclear industry of the accident that took place at the Fukushima nuclear power station in Japan had been published.

Additionally, progress has also been made on the procurement of reactor components for Hinkley Point C with EDF Energy signing a contract with Areva to begin the forging process for some of the main reactor components.

Overall these developments represented strong progress on nuclear new build in the UK.

Following the intense activity within the new build team which was required to submit the planning application for Hinkley, a process was now commencing to reflect on and learn lessons from the Hinkley experience and prepare plans and team structures within the new build team to deliver a Sizewell Stage 1 consultation in 2012 alongside continued development of the Hinkley project.

More detailed plans and timings for Stage 1 consultation on Sizewell would be developed over the coming months and should be available in time for the next Project Board meeting in early 2012.

In discussion, on the subject of community benefits in relation to new nuclear build, it was noted that there had been a recent meeting between EDF Energy, the LPAs and the Sizewell Project Office in relation to the Government consultation on the localisation of business rates. The New Nuclear Local Authorities Group (NNLAG) would also shortly be issuing a paper with proposals in relation to community benefits for new nuclear build.

Item 2 – Sizewell C – Communication Issues

EDF Energy noted that early communication activity had continued with local stakeholders in relation to plans for Sizewell C. This included engagement with local business, education and training interests and with local parish councils.

At this stage in the process there were no new major communication issues to report and further communication activity, including development of the communications work package and agreement of the Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC), would follow in 2012 once target dates for the Stage 1 consultation had been clarified.

Work in this area would include discussion of the community forum which would be set up to facilitate broad stakeholder engagement with Sizewell C proposals. The membership and terms of reference would be developed by EDF Energy and discussed with the local authorities. It was noted that the existing Sizewell Stakeholder Group (SSG) does not debate new build issues - its purpose is to facilitate the relationship between the existing nuclear power stations at Sizewell and the local community.

Item 3 – Sizewell C - Emerging Suffolk Council Issues

The Suffolk Councils presented an up-dated paper on key issues relating to the current development of the Sizewell C project.

The majority of the paper repeated issues and items which had been discussed at previous Board meetings and were likely to be key issues through the consultation process.

There was however one new issue which had emerged since the last Project Board meeting. This related to Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR) concerns which had been raised with Suffolk Coastal District Council about the potential location of campus accommodation within the vicinity of the Sizewell site and the impact of such a development on overall population density in proximity to Sizewell.

In discussion the following points were noted:

- ONR's main concerns seemed to be related to emergency planning zones and issues related to the evacuation and re-location of an increased number of people in the event of an emergency at the Sizewell site.
- ONR's position could have implications for wider future allocation of land for housing development in the local area close to the Sizewell site.
- There were a number of considerations relevant to the optimal and most sustainable location for any proposed campus accommodation development and emergency planning considerations were one but not the only factor within this.

- Recent guidance by the IPC and court judgements in relation to campus accommodation in support of nationally significant infrastructure projects may be a relevant consideration in this context. In particular these judgements established that such accommodation should not be viewed as “dwellings” or housing development in the conventional sense.

It was agreed that a sensible next step would be for EDF Energy and SCDC to meet with the ONR and other local emergency planning representatives to discuss this issue further and develop a stronger shared understanding of relevant issues and potential next steps.

Action: EDFE to liaise with SCDC to set up a meeting.

Item 4 - Sizewell C PPA Expenditure to Date

The Sizewell Project Office presented a short note on expenditure under the PPA to date. Total expenditure under the PPA since signature and up to the end of October 2011 amounted to approx £178k which represented approximately 35% of approved expenditure under the various agreed work packages.

Expenditure overall was well within allocations and had slowed in recent months due to the focus within EDF Energy on finalisation of the Hinkley DCO submission.

Item 5 – Work Package Up-dates

The Sizewell Project Office presented up-dates to the Land and Water and Environment work packages. These reflected anticipated activity over the coming months and interactions with the Suffolk Councils. It was noted that the additional Suffolk Council costs associated with this activity was estimated to be within existing financial approvals for the work packages in question.

As such there was not a requirement for the Project Board to authorise a new financial approval limit for these work packages. However the content and activity within the revised work packages was agreed.

In relation to the transport work package, EDF Energy confirmed that activity in this area would now be re-started. This would include consideration of the forthcoming Suffolk Council response to the transport scoping document issued in the summer and further examination of potential site options for park and ride developments and freight logistics. EDF Energy would arrange meetings with the new SCC officer responsible for Sizewell C transport issues and would also seek a meeting to discuss latest developments in relation to Lowestoft harbour and potential EDF Energy interests in using the harbour to support the Sizewell C development. SCDC noted that there would be a forthcoming consultation on a Local Development Order related to the Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth Enterprise Zone and that EDF Energy may wish to respond to this.

In relation to socio-economic issues it was noted that skills and training was an area where there were potentially long lead times to establish the right mechanisms to deliver training initiatives and ensure a good supply of skilled local people to support the construction programme at the right time. There could therefore be a requirement for early further work in this area under the socio-economic work package.

EDFE indicated that it would give some further thought to the areas of socio-economic work which could be usefully developed in advance of Stage 1 consultation and would arrange further discussion with the Suffolk Councils on this issue in advance of the next Project Board meeting. **Action: EDF Energy**

Item 7 – Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Project Board would be scheduled for February 2011 and would be held at EDF Energy offices in London. **Action: EDF Energy to arrange.**