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Sizewell C

**Planning Performance Agreement
4th Project Board Meeting**

Date: 22 June 2011

Attendees

SCC	Lucy Robinson, John Pitchford
SCDC	Stephen Baker, Bob Chamberlain, Philip Ridley
Sizewell Project Office	Paul Wood, Nicky Corbett
EDFE	Angela Pearce, Roy Collins, Tom McGarry

Meeting Minutes

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Project Board meeting of 6 April 2011 were approved. Nicky Corbett will be added to the attendee list.

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

EDFE provided an up-date on nuclear new build developments. Work was continuing to finalise the submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Hinkley Point C project – aiming for submission in Q3 of this year. There would be an intense period of activity within the planning team to finalise all the documentation required for this application and this would have an impact on the amount of work that would be progressed on Sizewell in the coming months. Timings for Stage 1 consultation on Sizewell would be confirmed once the Hinkley DCO submission had been submitted.

EDFE had welcomed the interim 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 Dai-ichi nuclear power station in Japan. On the basis of the interim report it was expected that the Government would shortly lay the Energy National Policy Statements (including the Nuclear Power Generation NPS) before

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Parliament. *(Post meeting note: the Energy National Policy Statements were laid before Parliament on 23 June. A date for a parliamentary vote has yet to be set).*

Item 2 – Sizewell C – Communication Issues

EDFE presented a paper on communication issues linked to the forthcoming launch of public consultation on proposals for Sizewell C.

The paper set out:

- The anticipated approach and timetable relevant to agreement and publication of the Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC)
- The overall approach to public consultation that would be adopted and the different mechanisms which would be available for members of the public and stakeholders to engage in the process. EDFE envisaged that activities would be divided between an inner zone (comprising those communities closest to the development or any proposed associated developments) where consultation would be most intense and an outer zone. Communities in the outer zone would generally be less affected by the direct impacts of the construction programme but could be important sources of employment and beneficiaries of commercial opportunities arising from the development
- A summary of the key issues that were anticipated to arise during public consultation.

EDFE noted that it was planned that there would be a community forum for Sizewell C which would enable representatives from key communities and stakeholders to engage with the process and EDFE's proposals in detail. Work was continuing on the precise approach to the forum in terms of membership, remit and timing of the first meeting. This thinking would be shared with the Suffolk Councils in due course. The objective was to try and deliver a process in which the key issues and concerns of the local community could be discussed without a single issue or interest group dominating over all others.

In discussion it was agreed that:

- There was a distinction between formal consultation on the SOCC – which should ideally take place as close to the launch of public consultation as possible – and informal consultation with the Suffolk Councils, which would begin earlier.
- The communications work package should be brought to the Project Board for approval in advance of any extensive work required on the SOCC or other aspects of communication work.

Item 3 – Sizewell C - Emerging Suffolk Council Issues

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The Suffolk Councils presented a paper on key issues relating to the current development of the Sizewell C project. This was agreed to be a standing item on the agenda which would bring major project issues to the attention of the Project Board at an early stage.

A number of issues remained outstanding from the previous meeting. Discussion focussed on the new items – which were as follows:

- Long-term Coastal Management Approach
- Consultation on Coastal Impacts
- Minsmere Sluice.

As these items shared a common theme they were discussed together.

The Suffolk Councils noted that there was a strong local interest in coastal impacts, with a high level of knowledge and interest in the subject present in some local communities. The impact of new nuclear development on the Suffolk coast would therefore be of considerable interest during the public consultation and EDFE could expect considerable scrutiny of its proposals and findings in this area.

The Suffolk Councils indicated that they would be seeking a commitment from EDFE to engage in a process with key stakeholders which would allow for continued monitoring of coastal processes and impacts, the agreement of mitigating actions and to identifying approaches which represented the best compromise between potentially competing objectives. They would be keen to see this process wrapped up in a legal agreement to which EDFE would have obligations to contribute and fund and which would address coastal issues both north and south of the Sizewell site as well as at the site itself.

With respect to Minsmere Sluice the key issue was that the existing Sluice was estimated to have a remaining life of around 15-20 years. After that point it was not yet clear how the Sluice's existing functions of freshwater drainage control and contribution to sea defences would be delivered. Future options might include moving the location of the sluice or converting it to a pumped rather than a gravity discharge system.

The Suffolk Councils noted that they and other environmental stakeholders were keen to see the Sizewell Belts SSSI preserved as a freshwater habitat and that RSPB wished to protect the Minsmere reserve from saltwater inundation for the next 50 years. The future function and location of the Sluice would be a critical issue in addressing these objectives.

In discussion EDFE recognised that coastal protection and the Minsmere Sluice would be significant issues during the consultation process and that there was strong local interest in these issues. EDFE's ongoing environmental and technical studies in relation to Sizewell C would be relevant to these issues. In considering the issues and the range of approaches available for addressing them it would be important to distinguish between those impacts which were likely to occur as a result of existing natural processes, those

which related to the existing nuclear developments at the Sizewell site and those which related to EDF Energy's proposals for Sizewell C.

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 amounted to approx £95.7k up to the end of May. Expenditure under all work packages was well within allocations and forecasts with the exception of the Project Management work package which was the subject of the next agenda item.

In discussion it was noted that the information presented on costs under each work package was very helpful and that the process of invoicing and payment was operating smoothly.

Item 5 – Project Management Work Package

The Suffolk Councils presented a short paper seeking approval to extend the authorised expenditure limit for this work package from £240,744 to £288,000 over two years.

The proposal arose from the fact that it was now clear that the monthly costs of the Project Office were slightly higher than had been estimated at the time that the original work package had been approved in November 2010. While the original expenditure limit would not be breached for some time it therefore seemed prudent to seek early approval from the Project Board for a higher authorised limit for this work package.

The Project Board indicated that it was content to approve the higher expenditure limit for this work package and EDFE confirmed its agreement to meet the arising expenditure.

Item 6 – Any Other Business

The Suffolk Councils noted that there had been recent discussions on skills and training issues relevant to the Sizewell C development and this 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.

EDF Energy recognised that this was an important area for future activity – and that it was in the early stages of meeting with local FE and HE providers, as well as key stakeholders involved in the Suffolk skills agenda. While no further activity under the socio-economic work package was planned in the very near future (any workshop involving John Glasson and local stakeholders would be held closer to the launch of

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public consultation) EDF Energy was open to considering proposals for additional activity if a good case could be made. This could potentially be discussed at the next Project Board meeting.

Item 7 – Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Project Board is scheduled for 2pm on Wednesday 21 September at SCC offices in Ipswich.