



Sizewell C Joint Local Authority Group (JLAG) Update

30 March 2020

Cllr Richard Rout
Chair of JLAG

Cllr Craig Rivett
Vice-Chair of JLAG



Delay of the Sizewell C submission in reaction to the Covid-19 crisis

1. As we are sure you will be aware, in reaction to the current Covid-19 crisis, EDF Energy announced on 26 March 2020 that it will be deferring submitting its application for Development Consent to the Planning Inspectorate “by a few weeks”. It had originally been suggested it would be submitted in quarter one of 2020.
2. In a joint statement, the Leader of Suffolk County Council, Cllr Matthew Hicks and the Leader of East Suffolk Council, Cllr Steve Gallant responded: *“Both Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council absolutely agree that this is the right decision for EDF Energy to take at this moment in time. We believe there is no other choice for them to take during such a difficult time for us all as we focus on fighting the effect of Covid-19 across Suffolk.*
3. *“Given the critical need for our communities to have the ability to fully engage with the consultation and decision making process that forms a valuable part of the Government’s formal Development Consent Order, we are relieved to hear EDF Energy has given due consideration to the timescales for making their submission and will delay for a number of weeks. We are now keen to understand what this means as we all currently expect to be living with the effects and restrictions surrounding Covid-19 for some time to come and we would not be happy to see anything done that restricts the community in taking an active part in the decision making process.*
4. *“We are keen to keep talking to EDF Energy about when it will be appropriate for all parties to see EDF Energy make their submission.”*
5. We know that Town and Parish Councils are working tirelessly to help their communities through this difficult time, and we would like to thank you for all your efforts. We are sure that the delay of the Sizewell C submission will come as a relief to you in these challenging times.
6. We remain committed to engaging with and helping our Town and Parish Councils in responding to the Sizewell C application as and when EDF Energy recommences the process. We will send out a newsletter with more detail of what we propose and when, once we have more information on EDF Energy’s timetable post-submission. We will have engagement with Town and Parish Councils after the submission documents are published; the form this takes will depend on circumstances at that time. If we are unable to hold a meeting, we will look to provide an internet-based event.
7. As always please stay in touch by emailing us at sizewellc@eastsoffolk.gov.uk .