

MARCH 2010

## Public consultation – thank you for responses

Around 700 comments from the public, community groups and statutory consultees have been received by EDF Energy in response to our first stage of consultation on 'Initial Proposals and Options' for the planned Hinkley Point C nuclear power station.

EDF Energy's Hinkley Point project team is now analysing and considering all these submissions. A detailed report, outlining our response to the issues raised during the consultation will be published alongside our 'Preferred Proposals'.

There will then be a second stage of extensive public consultation on these 'Preferred Proposals' before an application is submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC).



*Cannington exhibition: 28 November 2009*

The first stage of consultation ran from mid November 2009 until 18 January this year. The consultation period, which was due to end on 11 January 2010, was extended by one week to a total of nine weeks because of the bad weather at the start of the year. The consultation was extensively advertised through newsletters, the local media and online.

It is estimated that 1,160 people attended EDF Energy's nine public exhibitions, held at eight different locations. Eighteen stakeholder meetings were held to discuss our proposals with the local community during the consultation period with over 500 people attending.

## What happens next

**The responses to the consultation have provided us with a significant insight into local views on our plans for Hinkley Point C. We are extremely grateful to all those who have commented. We want to take time to explore fully all the issues raised in relation to the proposals for both the main site and the associated developments needed to provide for transport and accommodation requirements.**

In view of the scale of the response, we have taken the decision to start consulting on the second stage – our 'Preferred Proposals' – in late spring/early summer of this year allowing ourselves sufficient time to assess and respond to key issues raised.

We expect, in the near future, to undertake further investigative work on

some of the site options that we consulted upon in Stage 1. We are talking to relevant statutory consultees about where further investigations may be required in order to inform our decisions about the selection of preferred proposals which we will consult on later in the year.

We will endeavour to keep local residents, local councils and other community stakeholders informed about our progress, particularly where we are undertaking further site investigative work.

Details of the Stage 2 consultation, which will include another series of public exhibitions, will be advertised in a later edition of the newsletter. Information about our proposals will also be available on our website:

[www.edfconsultation.info/hinkleypoint](http://www.edfconsultation.info/hinkleypoint)

## Contact us

If you have any queries, please contact us in one of the following ways:

**Drop in to our Bridgwater office:**  
14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG  
Monday to Friday during office hours  
(excluding public holidays)

**Call us on:**  
Freephone 0800 169 6507\*  
or 01278 444 600

**Email us at:**  
[enquiries@edfconsultation.info](mailto:enquiries@edfconsultation.info)\*

**Send a letter to:**  
FREEPOST CONSULTATION RESPONSE  
(no further address or stamp required)\*

If you have a general EDF Energy customer/billing enquiry, please call 0800 096 9000.

\*These contact details will put you in touch with PPS, who are managing the public consultation programme on behalf of EDF Energy.

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## Update on site investigation work

**Site investigation work at Hinkley Point is progressing well and we are building a good picture of the geological, archaeological and environmental conditions present.**

Subject to obtaining necessary consents, we plan to carry out vibration and compression tests during the spring of this year to understand better the potential for re-using earth from the construction site rather than having to transport it off site for disposal.

The tests will involve two trial trenches at

the northern end of our land. We will carry out a variety of tests on the soil that is excavated and the working areas will be securely fenced for safety reasons while the work is carried out.

As part of the vibration testing we will carry out small-scale, controlled blasts to help establish how the deeper soils will react to excavation. As the blasts will be small and well away from buildings we don't expect them to be heard or felt by any of the surrounding homes or the existing power stations, although

inevitably there will be some noise involved with this programme of work.

We anticipate the remaining blasts and other tests will be finished by late spring.

Additionally, we anticipate the investigation work on site continuing over summer 2010 after which, depending on our receiving permission from the appropriate authorities, we aim to begin some elements of the preliminary site works.

## Showcasing jobs in the low carbon economy

**EDF Energy representatives from Hinkley Point B Power Station and the EDF Energy Bridgwater Office attended the Bridgwater, Taunton and West Somerset Careers Fair organised by Connect South West on 2 February 2010.**

Information was provided about existing and proposed new nuclear power stations at Hinkley Point and the opportunities for careers in an industry that provides a clean, secure and affordable source of electricity for millions of homes in the UK.

Many technically minded students showed real interest in our modern apprenticeship scheme, which not only focuses on the skills required to maintain nuclear power stations, but also the attitudes and behaviours essential for the safe operation of our plants. Information on our Graduate Scheme was also available for students planning to attend university.

Helen Dodden, Hinkley Point B Human Resources Team said: "The event was a huge success with around 4,000 young people and their parents attending. We



*EDF stand at careers Fair*

were there to raise young people's awareness of the rapidly growing opportunities within the nuclear industry and the future low carbon economy."

## Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

### **Q1: When and how will EDF Energy respond to our consultation comments?**

A: We are currently analysing and considering all the comments received during the stage one consultation on Initial Proposals and Options. A detailed report, outlining our response to the issues raised, will be published alongside our 'Preferred Proposals' in late spring/early summer and will be available to download from our website:

[www.edfconsultation.info/hinkleypoint](http://www.edfconsultation.info/hinkleypoint)

### **Q2: How many jobs will you create and how many will go to local people?**

A: During construction of Hinkley Point C

at least 4,000 people will be working on site during the peak period, and many more in the supply chain off site. Locally and nationally our plans will create opportunities for skilled jobs and we will do our part to help develop these skills, along with Government and others.

To give local people the opportunity to gain the skills required for these jobs we are already working with Bridgwater College, the South West Regional Development Agency and the National Skills Academy.

When complete the station will employ 700 permanent staff for at least 60 years. This

significant source of employment will boost local and regional economies.

### **Q3: How do local firms get involved?**

A: We're developing a procurement strategy to encourage and facilitate local firms getting involved in the supply chain for the nuclear power station. To achieve this we're recruiting a local supply chain officer to engage directly with firms in Somerset, and we're setting up a database of local suppliers interested in working with us.

If you would like to register an interest, please call our Bridgwater office on **01278 444 600**.