

# EDF Energy: Consultation Plans for a New Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point C



## Statement of Community Consultation

[Published under section 47(6) of the Planning Act 2008]

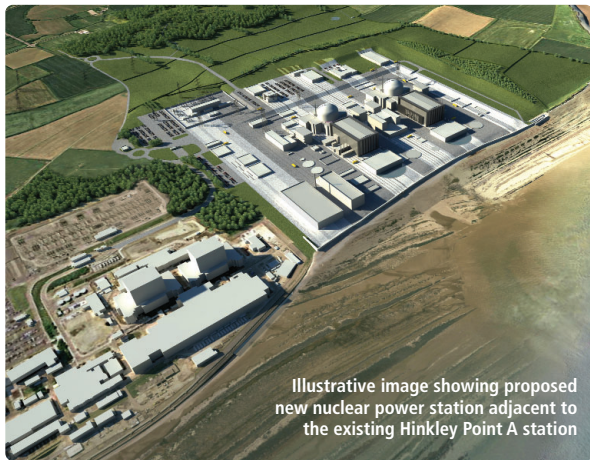
### About this Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC)

This SOCC sets out how NNB Generation Company Limited whose registered office is at 40 Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7EN (referred to in this document as 'EDF Energy') intends to consult local communities affected by its plans for a new nuclear power station, known as Hinkley Point C. It updates and replaces the SOCC published by EDF Energy in November 2009. EDF Energy has consulted West Somerset Council, Sedgemoor District Council and Somerset County Council about the contents of this SOCC and has had regard to their responses. A detailed strategy for consulting the local community, 'Hinkley Point C: Stage 2 Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation', has also been published to accompany this SOCC and is available from the project website, [www.edfconsultation.info](http://www.edfconsultation.info) or by contacting EDF Energy (see Contact Information below). This sets out and explains in more depth the factors that have informed the catchment, timing and methods of consultation proposed in this SOCC.

### Government Policy

The Government has decided that new nuclear power stations should play a significant role in the future generation of electricity for the UK. The draft Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS), published for consultation in November 2009, described the need for new nuclear power stations and identified Hinkley Point as one of the sites potentially suitable for the development of a new nuclear power station before the end of 2025. The draft Nuclear NPS will be subject to final approval once it has been examined by Parliament.

## Hinkley Point C Proposals



Illustrative image showing proposed new nuclear power station adjacent to the existing Hinkley Point A station

The aim and objective of the Hinkley Point C proposals is to contribute towards meeting the Government's goal of providing 25 gigawatts of non renewable electricity generating capacity by 2025. EDF Energy plans to build a nuclear power station on land to the west of the existing Hinkley Point A and B power stations. Development on the main site will include: two UK European Pressurised water Reactors (EPRs); supporting infrastructure of cooling water tunnels, fuel and waste management facilities and transmission equipment; a sea wall; temporary jetty; National Grid 400KV substation; staff facilities; a public information centre; and temporary accommodation for workers.

The new power station could provide low carbon electricity for approximately 5 million homes, or more than 6% of the UK's requirement, and help to achieve the Government's climate change targets. As a multi-billion pound investment, Hinkley Point C will also create significant economic opportunities for local people and businesses during its construction and operation.

Our aims are to minimise the local impacts of this project, contribute to the strategies of the relevant local authorities and provide sustainable legacy benefits for the local communities.

However, building a new power station at Hinkley Point will potentially affect the lives of those living in communities close to the main site through, for example: construction operations; increased traffic; visual impact; loss of public access to parts of the site; environmental impacts; and pressure on existing community infrastructure.

In addition to construction of the power station, off-site developments are proposed near the M5 (junctions 23 and 24), in Bridgwater, Cannington, Williton and at Combwich Wharf. These developments may include some or all of: accommodation for workers; park & ride; and freight logistics facilities. People living nearby could potentially be affected by, for example: construction operations; increased traffic; environmental impacts; and pressure on existing community infrastructure.

The potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the building and operation of the power station and off-site developments include: potential impacts on local geology; the Somerset coast line; water and air quality; drainage and flood risk; local ecology and wildlife; landscape and visual amenity; archaeology and cultural heritage; rights of way; noise and vibration; and transportation and socio-economic impacts.

### The Planning Process

EDF Energy will apply to the independent Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), established under the Planning Act 2008, for consent to construct, operate and maintain the power station. The IPC's decision must be made in accordance with national policy but will take account of the local impact of a proposal.

Before the IPC will accept an application, it must be satisfied that EDF Energy has conducted effective pre-application consultation. The pre-application consultation will also be important in relation to the examination process after the application has been accepted by the IPC.

### Environmental Information

EDF Energy's plans for Hinkley Point C constitute a development requiring assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment. An Environmental Appraisal (EA) will be published as part of EDF Energy's Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals' consultation for Hinkley Point C described in this SOCC.

The EA will provide information about proposed land restoration, landscaping and other potential mitigation or compensatory measures for the impact of the proposals on natural habitats.

### Related Consultations

EDF Energy is aware of related consultations taking place at a similar time to its Stage 2 'Preferred Proposals' consultation and has attempted to co-ordinate its own consultation programme with related events to avoid public confusion and consultation fatigue. Further details are given in EDF Energy's published 'Hinkley Point C: Stage 2 Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation'.

### Consultation Timetable and Responses

EDF Energy consulted on its Stage 1 'Initial Proposals and Options' for Hinkley Point C from 16 November 2009 until 18 January 2010, in line with the SOCC published in November 2009.

The second, and final, stage of pre-application consultation on EDF Energy's 'Preferred Proposals' for Hinkley Point C will start on 9 July 2010. All responses to the Stage 2 consultation should be submitted to EDF Energy by 4 October 2010 using the Contact Information shown below. We may be required to make these representations available to the IPC.

### Scope of the Consultation

EDF Energy's Stage 2 consultation will be about the site-specific plans for:

- the main power station development at Hinkley Point during construction and operation; and
- the associated development, away from the main site, necessary to support construction and operation of the power station.

EDF Energy will be seeking the views of the public and stakeholders on all aspects of the potential impacts of its proposals. The principle of whether or not there is a need for a new nuclear power station, and whether Hinkley Point is a suitable site, will be determined by Parliament through the Nuclear NPS.

While the views of the local community will be influential in shaping EDF Energy's application to the IPC, EDF Energy must also take into account the views of local authorities and other statutory consultees, and consider what is practical and achievable in terms of delivering a new nuclear power station.

Public consultation will be undertaken within three geographic zones as follows:

- 'Inner Zone' covering communities within an approximate 5 mile radius of Hinkley Point and in the vicinity of all proposed associated development sites;
- 'Middle Zone' bordered by Burnham-on-Sea to the north, the M5 to the east (but including Puriton), south of Bridgwater and along the Quantock Hills as far as Williton/Watchet; and
- 'Outer Zone' stretching around Taunton to the south, Minehead to the west, Weston-super-Mare to the north and to the west of the M5.

Consultation will be focused within the 'Inner Zone' with public events at all locations where development is proposed. Public events will also be held in the 'Middle Zone' and mainly stakeholder events in the 'Outer Zone'. A full explanation of these consultation zones, and the factors that led to their adoption, is given in: 'Hinkley Point C: Stage 2 Consultation Strategy and Revised Statement of Community Consultation'.



Indicative map showing consultation zones

## Consultation Programme

The following EDF Energy public exhibitions will be held during the Stage 2 consultation:

Date	Time	Venue
Saturday 10 July 2010	10am-4pm	The Main Hall, Bridgwater College, Cannington, TA5 2LS.
Monday 12 July 2010	12pm-6pm	North Petherton Community Hall, TA6 6QA.
Tuesday 13 July 2010	2pm-8pm	Otterhampton Village Hall, TA5 2QS.
Wednesday 14 July 2010	2pm-8pm	Stogursey Victory Hall, TA5 1PR.
Thursday 15 July 2010	2pm-8pm	The Exchange, Bridgwater, TA6 4RR.
Friday 16 July 2010	9am-6pm	Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 3TQ.
Saturday 17 July 2010	10am-4pm	Danesfield School, Williton, TA4 4SW.
Monday 19 July 2010	2pm-8pm	Princess Theatre, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 1EH.
Wednesday 8 September 2010	10am-6pm	Morrisons, Bridgwater, TA6 3LN.
Saturday 11 September 2010	10am-4pm	Asda, Bridgwater, TA6 5AZ.

National Grid has been invited to attend these events to explain its Hinkley Point C connection project.

Workplace exhibitions will also be held for staff at Hinkley Point A and B power stations and for staff of West Somerset, Sedgemoor District and Somerset County Councils. Other public exhibitions and events may be organised.

The exhibition material will be on public display at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office, 14 King Square, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours, from 20 July 2010 until the close of the consultation. EDF Energy will hold workshops for community stakeholders. Focus groups and other events will be held to engage with hard to reach groups. Meetings of EDF Energy's Hinkley Point C Community Forum will also take place. Local Town and Parish Councils, and other relevant community organisations, will be offered meetings during the consultation period to discuss the Preferred Proposals.

EDF Energy will publicise details of this consultation programme, its Preferred Proposals, how people can respond and key outcomes in its newsletter 'Hinkley Point: News from EDF Energy' distributed to over 35,000 households and stakeholders in the affected communities. Public consultation events will be advertised in the local media.

The following consultation documents will be made available from 9 July 2010 in hard copy form at all public events, in Somerset libraries, and Council offices and Tourist Information Centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor:

- Stage 1 Consultation Report: Summary;
- Preferred Proposals: Summary; and
- Navigation Document for all Stage 2 Preferred Proposals documentation.

All consultation material will be available:

- to inspect in hard copy form at EDF Energy's Bridgwater office (14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG), at West Somerset District Council's offices (West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset, TA4 4QA) and at Sedgemoor District Council's offices (Bridgwater House, King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3AR) during their published opening hours
- to inspect on a DVD at all libraries in Somerset and Council offices/tourist information centres in West Somerset and Sedgemoor and
- to download from the project website, [www.edfconsultation.info](http://www.edfconsultation.info).

The Preferred Proposals: Summary will be translated into minority languages widely used locally and an interpretation service may be available on request. Summary consultation documents will be available on request in large print format.

### Next Steps

Following the close of the Stage 2 consultation on its Preferred Proposals, EDF Energy will consider the public and stakeholder response before adjusting and finalising its application for submission to the IPC this winter. A detailed Consultation Report, explaining how the views of the public have influenced the final proposals, will accompany the application.

### Contact Information

For further information, please contact EDF Energy in one of the following ways:

- Visit the EDF Energy Bridgwater office at 14 King Square, Bridgwater, TA6 3DG, during normal office hours (Monday-Friday, 9am to 5pm, excluding public holidays);
- Call Freephone 0800 169 6507\* or 01278 444 600;
- Email: [enquiries@edfconsultation.info](mailto:enquiries@edfconsultation.info)\*; and
- Write to FREEPOST CONSULTATION RESPONSE (no further stamp or address required)\*.

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