

April 2013

Consulting Local Communities on New Nuclear Development

Nuclear Institute, Western Branch Lecture, April 2013

Charles St George – A Personal Perspective



Proposed New Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point



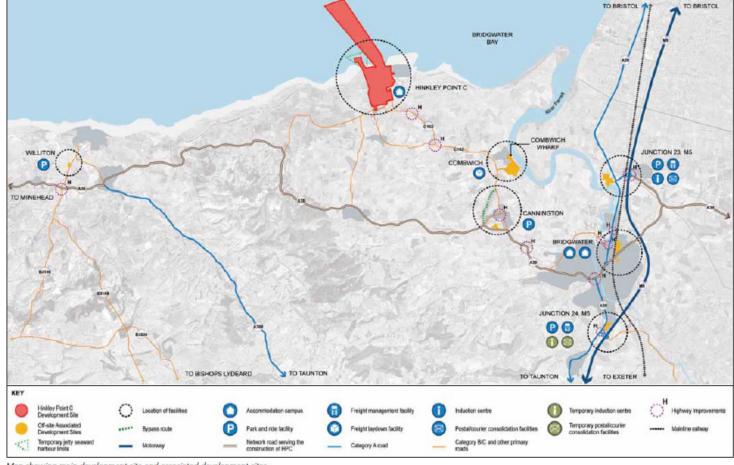
Hinkley Point C: Project Statistics

- Two new UK reactors 3.2 GW in total
- Capable of generating 6% of UK electricity
 low carbon base load energy
- 5,600 construction workers at peak
- £100 million p.a. into local economy during peak construction
- 900 permanent jobs
- £40 million p.a. into local economy during operation
- Impacts identified during construction mitigation agreed



PPS Main and Associated Development

April 2013



Map showing main development site and associated development sites

PPS Main and Associated Development

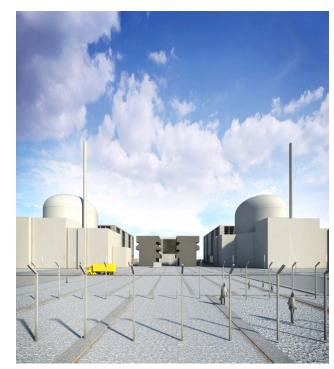
April 2013

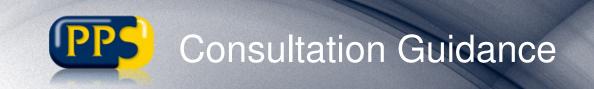
Main Site

- 176 ha construction site; 66 ha permanent development
- x2 UK reactors and ancillary buildings including Visitor Centre
- Substation and grid connection
- Temporary sea jetty and permanent sea wall
- Off shore cooling tunnels
- On-site construction workers accommodation campus

Associated Developments (temporary)

- x4 park & ride sites for construction workers and visitors
- Cannington bypass
- x2 accommodation campuses in Bridgwater
- x2 freight handling facilities near the M5
- Upgrading existing wharf and providing associated freight handling.





Hinkley Point C consultation programme took account of extensive guidance – some of which has been updated since:

- Consultation Principles Guidance from the Cabinet Office, July 2012
- *Planning Act 2008: Guidance on Pre-application Process,* Department of Communities and Local Government, January 2013

• *Guidance Notes 14 and 16* dealing with *Consultation Reports* and *Pre-Application Consultation* re-published by PINS, April 2012

• Statement of Community Involvement as adopted by Somerset County, West Somerset District and Sedgemoor District Council.



Understanding the Guidance

Key messages from the guidance that helped shape the Hinkley Point C consultation programme:

- Propose, listen, consider, review and respond
- Clarity about consultation scope
- Provide options and alternatives where possible
- Multi-stage, iterative consultation process
- · Consultees defined by geography, category & 'hard to reach'
- Variety of consultation techniques used
- All responses fully documented and recorded
- Consultation with statutory consultees, local communities and the general public carefully synchronised.



Understanding the Legislation

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Important to distinguish between different types of consultation:

- Section 42- 45: statutory consultees and those with an interest in the land
- Section 47: local community and those living in the vicinity of the land
- Section 48: publicise to the wider general public

In EDF Energy's case these consultations were mainly conducted concurrently.



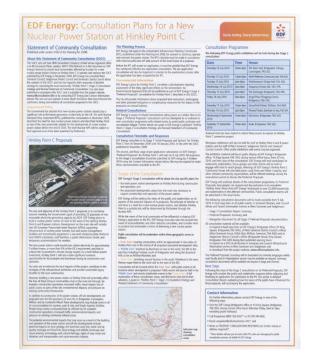


Designing the Consultation Programme

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Hinkley Point C process involved:

- Informal discussion on consultation with the Somerset local authorities from the outset
- Informal consultation on a draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) and supporting Consultation Strategy
- Formal 28-day consultation on the draft SoCC
- Review of local authority responses and finalisation of SoCC and Consultation Strategy
- A SoCC was prepared for each stage of the consultation.





April 2013

- Multi-stage approach
 - Stage 1: Initial Proposals and Options (63 days)
 - Stage 2: Preferred Proposals (87 days)
 - Stage 2: Update and Proposed Changes (31 days)
 - Stage 2b: Bridgwater Highway Improvements (42 days)

• Scope of the consultation excluded issues covered by the Government's Nuclear National Policy Statement – focussed on EDF Energy's plans

- Three consultation zones to reflect geographic spread of development, and direct/indirect impacts and benefits, with different intensity of consultation
- Wide variety of communication and consultation techniques deployed
- Engaged 'hard to hear' groups, ensure accessibility of consultation materials.





PPS-linkley Point C: Communication Tools

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Key communication tools deployed were:

- EDF Energy Bridgwater office
- HPC community newsletter with full postal delivery in 'inner' consultation zone

Dedicated project website, <u>www.edfenergyconsultation.info</u>. Now using <u>www.edfenergy.com/hinkleypointc</u>

- Local media coverage and advertising
- Direct mail to residents
- Consultation summary documents
- Translation and interpretation, large print formats and home visits
- Questionnaires, Freephone and freepost facility.



Hinkley Point C: Newsletter

April 2013

Hinkley Point

News from **EDF Energy**

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Consultation Strategy and Timetable

Consultation on Preferred Proposals Starts 9 July

nage of proposed development at Hinkley Point C (from initial proposals consultation)

next month

Public consultation on EDF Energy's

will start on 9 July, and run throughout

the summer and early autumn closing on 4 October this year.

our plans for the new power station and associated on-site and off-site development.

The public, community representatives and statutory consultees will have more than 12

Full details of the 'Preferred Proposals' will

the submission of a planning application.

be published on the project website on 9 July: www.edfconsultation.info

This marks the second stage of

weeks in which to give their response.

A detailed strategy setting out how EDF Energy proposes to consult with the local community has been discussed with West Somerset Council, Sedgemoor District Council and Somerset County Council.

> This Consultation Strategy and a revised Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) will be published on the website www.edfconsultation.info. The SOCC will also be published in full in local newspapers from 24 June.

A series of public exhibitions are being held at different locations in the area from 10 to 19 July, full details of which can be found on the back page of this newsletter. The exhibition material will then be available to view in our Bridgwater office in King Square from 20 July to 4 October 2010.

We will also be arranging meetings with Parish/Town Councils and local community groups in areas affected by the proposals. Many of these may be open to the public. Please contact us for further information (see back page).

Once the second stage of consultation has closed on 4 October, EDF Energy will review all the comments received before finalising and submitting a planning application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) this coming winter.

A detailed report on the consultation will be submitted with the planning application.



A series of public exhibitions will be held in 'Preferred Proposals' for Hinkley Point C July. More information about the 'Preferred Next Steps Proposals' for Hinkley Point C will be set out in a further edition of this newsletter The 'Preferred Proposals' will set out, in detail. We have been consulting local communities



and their representatives on plans for a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point C since November of last year. Consultation on 'Initial Proposals and Options' closed on 18 January 2010 and, since then, we have been considering

comments received from around 700 individual members of the public plus community groups and statutory consultees. A report on this first stage of pre-application public consultation before consultation, and how we have responded. will also be published on 9 July 2010.

PPS Hinkley Point C: Consultation Events

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Key consultation events have included:

- EDF Energy Community Forum: Transport and Main Site Neighbourhood Fora
- Public exhibitions near development sites and in retail centres
- Workplace exhibitions at local authority and Hinkley Point A+B sites
- Town/Parish and community group meetings
- 'Drop in' events
- Stakeholder workshops
- Focus groups/surveys for the 'hard to reach'
- Business supplier events.



Hinkley Point C: Public Exhibitions





Hinkley Point C: Engagement

April 2013

Engagement during formal consultation was extensive:

- 34 public and workplace exhibitions
- 67 stakeholder meetings
- 120,000 unique visitors to website
- Meetings of EDF Energy Community Fora
- Stakeholder workshops; focus groups; and supplier days
- Engagement with nearly 6,500 stakeholders
- More than 2,000 consultation responses.





Hinkley Point C was controversial but.....

• Consistent majority support for new nuclear in the local area – even with Fukushima

- Most locals have lived with nuclear power throughout their lives
- Many benefit directly or indirectly from jobs and local economic activity
- Working at Hinkley seen as high value, secure and long-term employment
- Appreciation that HPC development offers huge local economic opportunities, particularly for younger people
- Anti-nuclear objectors vocal but unrepresentative minority
- Main concerns around construction impacts especially traffic



Hinkley Point C: Consultation Achievements

April 2013

Community consultation made a real difference by refining the project to take account of local concerns:

- Removing some sites originally proposed for workers' accommodation and scaling down others
- Removing some sites originally proposed for park & ride and freight handling, scaling down others and concentrating most near M5 junctions 23 & 24
- Improving package of measures to mitigate construction and operational impacts
- Improving community benefits package and measures to facilitate local training, employment and wider economic benefits
- As a consequence, helping to reduce opposition and mobilise support



Hinkley Point C: Lessons Learnt

April 2013

The experience of Hinkley Point C consultation has demonstrated that consultation on new nuclear requires:

- · Joint working with local authorities
- Clear understanding of the local authority role on consultation SoCC consultation, Report on adequacy of Consultation
- High level and flexible Consultation Plan to avoid repeating the exercise
- Multi-stage, iterative approach to consultation with options or alternatives, not just a worked up scheme
- Variety of consultation techniques to engage with the 'hard to hear'
- Consultation database/software for documenting the process
- Open, honest and transparent approach



Hinkley Point C: the future?

