

## OFFICIAL

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>COUNTY COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>26 May 2016</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT</b>	<b>Isle of Anglesey County Council's Response to National Grid Electricity Transmission Ltd (National Grid) Final Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Dylan Williams, Head of Regulation &amp; Economic Development and Alun Owen, Lead Case Officer – (01248) 752429</b>
<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>To obtain approval of Full Council upon the Authority's response to National Grid's Final Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)</b>

### **Recommendations**

- (i)** Members are asked to endorse this report and request a further revised draft SoCC from National Grid before it is finalised.
- (ii)** With reference to (i) above, Members are requested to grant authority to the Chief Executive to agree to the further revised plan before the SoCC is finalised.
- (iii)** Members are requested to grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive to carry out amendments and variations which are identified and deemed reasonably necessary prior to the formal issuing of the Council's response.
- (iv)** Members are requested to grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive to sign off National Grid's Engagement Plan.
- (v)** Members are requested to endorse the Council's previously established position in that no additional electricity transmission lines and cables are constructed across Anglesey and the Menai Strait.

### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1** The legal planning framework for 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects' (NSIP's), which include above ground electricity transmission systems of 132Kv or above for distances over 2km in length, is the Planning Act 2008. Under this planning legislation, to be able to construct a second overhead 400kv high voltage electricity transmission line and towers across Anglesey, National Grid

will require a Development Consent Order (DCO). The DCO forms the main planning consent for NSIP's and it is currently envisaged that National Grid will be submitting an application for a DCO towards the end of 2017.

- 1.2 Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 requires the 'promoter' of an NSIP (being National Grid in this instance) to undertake pre-application consultation with a prescribed list of bodies, local authorities and those with an interest in the land affected by the project before making an application for a Development Consent Order. National Grid's current time table envisages that this statutory process of consultation and engagement will take place in late 2016.
- 1.3 Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 requires an applicant to prepare a 'Statement of Community Consultation' (SoCC) which sets out how the applicant proposes to consult 'people living in the vicinity of the land' (i.e. the local community) about a proposed application for development consent.

Under section 47(2) any local authority within whose boundary the proposals fall has 28 days from receipt of information about the applicant's proposals for consultation to make representations about what is to be included in the SoCC. This provides an opportunity for the local authority to assist the developer to devise a consultation programme that is effective and sensitive to the make-up of the communities likely to be affected by a proposal. When preparing the SoCC, section 47(5) requires the applicant to have regard to any representations received from the local authority prior to the 28 day deadline.

Once the SoCC is published, applicants are required by s47(6) to make the SoCC available for inspection by the public (usually in local libraries or community centres) and publish a notice setting out where and when the statement can be inspected.

- 1.4 Appendices to support the report to Full Council consist of the following:
  - **Appendix 1:** A draft letter which sets out the Authority's key issues based on the information provided within National Grid's documentation.
  - **Appendix 2:** National Grid's Final Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

## **2.0 Background and Project Overview**

- 2.1 At the time of National Grid's first stage non-statutory consultation in 2012 the Council was unequivocal in its preference for a HVDC sub-sea solution which would ensure no pylons would be erected on the Island and so limit the environmental and tourism impacts of the scheme. At the same time the Council expressed its concern over the perceived bias on the part of National Grid in signalling its preference for an overhead line solution.
- 2.2 There was a delay in further public engagement due to changes in Connection Contracts and the need for 'back-checking'. Subsequently, National Grid sought stakeholder feedback on its preferred technology and route corridor options. The stance of the Council was the same and continued to be the case in the later announcement by National Grid on the preferred Route Corridor.

- 2.3 The Council's response to the second stage of non-statutory consultation in 2015 comprised two strands; its overarching comments on the strategic option that has been chosen by National Grid for the Connection Project, and its high level comments on the specific route proposal being consulted on. As a precursor to the latter consultation the Council approached Horizon Nuclear Power requesting its views on the viability of a HVDC sub-sea connection of its new nuclear power station to the National Grid mainland network. The response was that such technology could give rise to fundamental uncertainty in respect of technical and commercial viability and risk issues. As a consequence the Council accepts that a HVDC subsea solution is not a viable option.
- 2.4 Taking a logical and 'step by step' approach the Council next considered the Hybrid Option. This option avoided the crossing of the Menai Strait, albeit that the National Grid had now committed to underground this section. This requires using existing 132kv route but replacing with 400kv pylons, and it obviated the need to connect to the Pentir substation. However, the Council was of the view that these merits were out-weighed by the need for a new much larger replacement overhead line from Wylfa to Valley, and the additional cost of undergrounding cables from the mainland landing point to the substation at Bryncir which the Council envisaged would be a legitimate requirement of Gwynedd Council.
- 2.5 This iterative and pragmatic approach brought into focus the option of a fully undergrounded connection between Wylfa and Pentir (referred to by National Grid as Strategic Option 3 – SO3 AC Cable) which had not been previously considered in detail by the Council. This has a similar cost to the Hybrid Option but brings the substantial advantage of no long term visual intrusion. In terms of technical viability the early indicators from experts in this field was that undergrounding along the whole length of the Orange Corridor route was likely to be technically feasible. Therefore the current position of the Council (endorsed by Full Council on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015) is that this option needs to be considered in further detail. The potential route alignment options for an underground solution, in consideration of environmental and socio-economic effects are yet to be fully explored.
- 2.6 At an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council on 9th December 2015 Members endorsed their previously established position in that no additional electricity transmission lines and pylons are constructed across Anglesey and the Menai Strait. The Council formally requested National Grid to commit to the further investigation of a fully undergrounded option across Anglesey. In the event that National Grid are unwilling to make such a commitment the Council spelt out their expectation that they will be provided with full reasons for not doing so having regard to all relevant parameters.
- 2.7 The current situation is one whereby the preferred option of National Grid is a new overhead line within the 'orange corridor' from Wylfa to Pentir, with undergrounding of the Menai Strait. This is contrary to the stated position of the Council set out in its response to the most recent consultation, which is for undergrounding of the line along its whole length. The consultation related only

to the latest proposals of National Grid for the line between Wylfa and Pentir and options for sites near LlanfairPG for the location of 'sealing end compounds' where the proposed overhead line would transfer underground to go under the Strait.

2.8 National Grid have recently undertaken test boreholes in relation to the undergrounding options and aim to share information on their undergrounding proposals in Summer 2016.

2.9 There is ongoing dialogue between Officers of the Council, Gwynedd Council and National Grid regarding the appropriate consenting regimes for the respective elements of the North Wales Connection Project. It is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) for the purpose of the Planning Act 2008. This requires National Grid to make an application to the Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change for a Development Consent Order (DCO) on the advice of the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) following a Hearing.

In England the DCO covers the totality of NSIP Projects. However, under devolved powers in Wales certain elements may fall under separate Planning legislation and be subject to Applications to the Local Planning Authority. It is the intention of the parties to reach agreement with the Welsh Government on the elements outside the DCO regime and refer this to PINS for verification by way of agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

2.10 As currently written the draft SoCC pre-supposes that the whole of the North Wales Connection Project is to be covered by the DCO process. However, this has yet to be confirmed. Also, all consultations carried out by National Grid to date have referred to the Project 'in the round', albeit for different sections, and have not distinguished with the public and key stakeholders the eventual consenting regime (or regimes) to be pursued. It is therefore seen as essential that the SoCC covers all eventualities, and does not give rise to any confusion with the public, nor lead to lack of meaningful engagement and the opportunity to influence proposals by National Grid. This was the approach taken by Horizon in the light of similar representations being made by the Council on their draft updated SoCC.

### **3.0 Key issues emerging from the final draft SoCC**

3.1 Members should be aware that the SoCC, as presented, is essentially a high level document and does not provide detail of engagement within the statement. This will follow later once there is further project definition and will be incorporated in National Grid's Engagement Plan.

3.2 **Consenting process:** No distinction has yet to be made between works which fall within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application and those to be secured through Town and Country Planning Applications (TCPA). It is recommended that an indicative project timeline for submission and examination of the DCO application is prepared, and the construction phase should be added so that the public are aware of the next steps in the process and likely timings.

Further detail is needed regarding the works that National Grid anticipates including within the DCO application and those that are likely to be consented separately. At the moment the explanation of 'associated development' is inadequate to provide any meaningful information on why the distinction is important and the principles that will determine which works will fall in which category.

The consultation documentation will also need to be clear as to the scope of the DCO application and the timings of any separate applications. It is important that the public understand this with regard to the timing of those applications and any related consultation, and the potential for cumulative impacts.

- 3.3 **Engagement Plan:** Section 1.2 refers to an Engagement Plan which will accompany the final SoCC prior to consultation and will provide detailed explanation on the consultation activities, including specific dates and venues of public exhibitions. National Grid should be mindful of the need to provide the Councils with an early viewing of the Engagement Plan in order to ensure transparency and clarity. It is anticipated that commitments made in the Engagement Plan are likely to have a significant influence over the format and function of the consultation activities and it is crucial that the Councils have a clear understanding of those measures. Further information is needed about the scope and content of the Engagement Plan, how the Council will be engaged in agreeing its details and how the document will be made available to the public. It is expected that this document will set out details of all the community bodies consulted and hard to reach groups.
- 3.4 **Consultation Zone:** Whilst the use of a consultation zone may be beneficial in providing clarity, National Grid should provide information on ways in which they will consult with communities which may lie outside of the prescribed consultation zone and which may nonetheless be affected by the proposals. Without a plan of the consultation zone, it is not possible at this stage to comment on the appropriateness of the proposed zone and the Council therefore seeks further detail regarding the proposed zonal approach to consultation.

There should be a clear and transparent linkage between the predicted effects arising from the proposals and the extent of the consultation zone. The proposal by National Grid to extend the consultation zone from 2km to 3km in the vicinity of the project continues to lack an evidence basis on which this could be deemed appropriate. The SoCC refers to potential landscape and visual effects; this is inconsistent with recent scoping discussions (Landscape and Visual Scoping Meeting 21st January 2016) which refer to an assessment zone of at least 5km for the consideration of sensitive landscape and visual receptors. The Council will require a rationale of why National Grid extended the original consultation zone from 2km to 3km and why a 5km consultation zone is not being considered as requested by the Council.

Cumulative impacts, particularly in relation to in-combination effects on local communities during construction, should be carefully considered in relation to consultation areas proposed. This includes the 'enabling works' referred to in the SoCC. The Councils expect to be consulted on the detailed proposal for the

consultation zone, aligned with a clear project definition and predicted effects, on which to provide meaningful comment.

- 3.5 **Consultation timing:** Section 3.3 of the final draft SoCC states that the exact dates of consultation will be provided when the SoCC is published for consultation. National Grid should be mindful of the need to consider any coinciding consultation activities anticipated locally and relating to other projects such as Horizon Nuclear Power's Wylfa Newydd proposals. Confirmation is required as to the publication date of the Stage 2 Consultation Feedback Report, ensuring that this takes place before the statutory consultation commences in Autumn 2016. Further consideration should also be made to the timing and content detail of the Menai Strait crossing which is to be made public during Summer 2016.
- 3.6 **Communication:** It is noted that in Section 3.5 that the subheading and detail on 'landowners and residents in close proximity' has been omitted but is included in the first draft SoCC.

For 'hard to reach' groups / visitors / local interest groups the SoCC is vague and requires a greater level of detail eg provision of braille, hearing loops, voice recognition technology. For increased engagement and understanding of technical issues National Grid should consider utilising 'YouTube' style presentations in a step by step approach.

National Grid should be mindful in reference to section 3.5 that Anglesey does not have a single Tourist Information Centre (TIC), however, there is a network of Tourist Information Points within key settlements. These information points are located within existing operations including local libraries, attractions and businesses. As part of the consultation process the Council expects National Grid to make full use of these facilities as hubs within the community and in consultation with the Council on their suitability.

Within section 5 of the SoCC reference should also be made to the section 48 notices that will be published informing people of the dates of the consultation and the location of the consultation materials that can be viewed by the public.

- 3.7 **Mitigation:** The SoCC should also set out how National Grid will consult with the local community on proposed mitigation measures and opportunities for environmental enhancement or compensation. National Grid should ensure they provide sufficient information on processes for developing mitigation upon which the local communities can provide informed consultation feedback.
- 3.8 **Will the SoCC deliver effective consultation?** To date National Grid has carried out non-statutory consultation on its North Wales Connection project. This has included consultation on strategic options (in 2012) and route options (in 2015). However, it appears from the SoCC that National Grid only intends to carry out a single stage of statutory consultation (both under s42 and s47) on its chosen cable route. This raises a number of issues for the scope of the consultation included within the SoCC:

- the need to be clear about the matters for which National Grid is seeking the public's views and feedback (bearing in mind that the pre-application consultation process is meant to deliver genuine engagement through consultation, not merely presentation);
- It is critical the consultation is done well and engages as many people as possible.
- the extent to which the consultation documents will clearly set out how the preferred route has been identified and the regard that has been had to the previous non-statutory consultation in arriving at that route.

## **4.0 Conclusions**

- 4.1 There are a number of matters that require further consideration or detail before the Council can be confident that the SoCC will deliver effective community consultation. The Members are respectfully requested to endorse this report with a request of a further revised draft from National Grid before the SoCC is finalised.
- 4.2 Subject to the Members' endorsement, together with any additional substantive comments it is also requested that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive as senior Responsible Owner to carry out those amendments, variations, corrections which are identified and deemed reasonably necessary prior to the formal issuing of the response.
- 4.3 National Grid should be mindful of the need to provide the Councils with an early viewing of the Engagement Plan in order to ensure transparency and clarity.
- 4.4 Members endorse their previously established position in that no additional electricity transmission lines and cables are constructed across Anglesey and the Menai Strait.

**Matt Durham**

Senior Project Manager  
Major Infrastructure Development Capital Delivery  
National Grid House  
Warwick Technology Park  
Gallows Hill  
Warwick CV34 6DA

Dr. Gwynne Jones  
Prif Weithredwr  
Chief Executive

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL  
Swyddfa'r Sir  
LLANGEFNI  
Ynys Môn - Anglesey  
LL77 7TW

Gofynnwch am - Please ask for: Vicky Jones

☎ (01248) 752102 📠(01248)750839

E-Bost-E-mail: gwynnejones@ynysmon.gov.uk

Ein Cyf - Our Ref. WGJ/VLJ

Eich Cyf - Your Ref.

Dear Matt Durham

**Re: Isle of Anglesey County Council's formal response to National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid) plc - North Wales Connection Project on the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

Thank you for the opportunity to view and respond to National Grid's SoCC.

Notwithstanding the fact that National Grid are seeking the Council's views and comments on the SoCC, I take this opportunity to reiterate the previously held stance of the Council as regards to no additional electricity transmission lines and cables are constructed across Anglesey and the Menai Strait.

**Introduction**

As host Authority, along with Gwynedd Council, for the proposed North Wales Connection Project by National Grid, The Isle of Anglesey County Council (The Council) takes the opportunity to provide comments on the final draft SoCC issued by National Grid on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2016. The Council response is in compliance with section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 and was submitted and considered at a Special Meeting of the Full Council on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2016.

Elected Members welcome the opportunity of regular briefings and updates from National Grid such as the most recent introducing of the final draft SoCC (9<sup>th</sup> May 2016) and request that these continue throughout the project timeline. The Council is encouraged that National Grid are engaging on a regular basis with officers and that their professional comments and input are taken on board, for example the high level comments submitted on the initial draft SoCC (4<sup>th</sup> April 2016).

The Council wish to make it clear that it's not possible to fully consider the SoCC until National Grid submit detailed proposals for the Wylfa – Pentir connection as part of the North Wales Connection Project.



**Key issues emerging from the final draft SoCC.**

**Consenting process:** No distinction has yet to be made between works which fall within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application and those to be secured through Town and Country Planning Applications (TCPA). It is recommended that an indicative project timeline for submission and examination of the DCO application is prepared, and the construction phase should be added so that the public are aware of the next steps in the process and likely timings.

Further detail is needed regarding the works that National Grid anticipates including within the DCO application and those that are likely to be consented separately. At the moment the explanation of 'associated development' is inadequate to provide any meaningful information on why the distinction is important and the principles that will determine which works will fall in which category.

The consultation documentation will also need to be clear as to the scope of the DCO application and the timings of any separate applications. It is important that the public understand this with regard to the timing of those applications and any related consultation, and the potential for cumulative impacts.

**Engagement Plan:** Section 1.2 refers to an Engagement Plan which will accompany the final SoCC prior to consultation and will provide detailed explanation on the consultation activities, including specific dates and venues of public exhibitions. National Grid should be mindful of the need to provide the Councils with an early viewing of the Engagement Plan in order to ensure transparency and clarity. It is anticipated that commitments made in the Engagement Plan are likely to have a significant influence over the format and function of the consultation activities and it is crucial that the Councils have a clear understanding of those measures. Further information is needed about the scope and content of the Engagement Plan, how the Council will be engaged in agreeing its details and how the document will be made available to the public. It is expected that this document will set out details of all the community bodies consulted and hard to reach groups.

**Consultation Zone:** Whilst the use of a consultation zone may be beneficial in providing clarity, National Grid should provide information on ways in which they will consult with communities which may lie outside of the prescribed consultation zone and which may nonetheless be affected by the proposals. Without a plan of the consultation zone, it is not possible at this stage to comment on the appropriateness of the proposed zone and the Council therefore seeks further detail regarding the proposed zonal approach to consultation.

There should be a clear and transparent linkage between the predicted effects arising from the proposals and the extent of the consultation zone. The proposal by National Grid to extend the consultation zone from 2km to 3km in the vicinity of the project continues to lack an evidence basis on which this could be deemed appropriate. The SoCC refers to potential landscape and visual effects; this is inconsistent with recent scoping discussions (Landscape and Visual Scoping Meeting 21st January 2016) which refer to an assessment zone of at least 5km for the consideration of sensitive landscape and visual receptors. The Council will require a rationale of why National Grid extended the original consultation zone from

2km to 3km and why a 5km consultation zone is not being considered as requested by the Council.

Cumulative impacts, particularly in relation to in-combination effects on local communities during construction, should be carefully considered in relation to consultation areas proposed. This includes the 'enabling works' referred to in Section 3.1 of the SoCC. The Councils expect to be consulted on the detailed proposal for the consultation zone, aligned with a clear project definition and predicted effects, on which to provide meaningful comment.

**Consultation timing:** Section 3.3 of the final draft SoCC states that the exact dates of consultation will be provided when the SoCC is published for consultation. National Grid should be mindful of the need to consider any coinciding consultation activities anticipated locally and relating to other projects such as Horizon Nuclear Power's Wylfa Newydd proposals. Confirmation is required as to the publication date of the Stage 2 Consultation Feedback Report, ensuring that this takes place before the statutory consultation commences in Autumn 2016. Further consideration should also be made to the timing and content detail of the Menai Strait crossing which is to be made public during Summer 2016.

**Communication:** It is noted that in Section 3.5 that the subheading and detail on 'landowners and residents in close proximity' has been omitted but is included in the first draft SoCC.

For 'hard to reach' groups / visitors / local interest groups the SoCC is vague and requires a greater level of detail eg provision of braille, hearing loops, voice recognition technology. For increased engagement and understanding of technical issues National Grid should consider utilising 'YouTube' style presentations in a step by step approach.

National Grid should be mindful in reference to section 3.5 that Anglesey does not have a single Tourist Information Centre (TIC), however, there is a network of Tourist Information Points within key settlements. These information points are located within existing operations including local libraries, attractions and businesses. As part of the consultation process the Council expects National Grid to make full use of these facilities as hubs within the community and in consultation with the Council on their suitability.

Within section 5 of the SoCC reference should also be made to the section 48 notices that will be published informing people of the dates of the consultation and the location of the consultation materials that can be viewed by the public.

**Mitigation:** The SoCC should also set out how National Grid will consult with the local community on proposed mitigation measures and opportunities for environmental enhancement or compensation. National Grid should ensure they provide sufficient information on processes for developing mitigation upon which the local communities can provide informed consultation feedback.

**Will the SoCC deliver effective consultation?** To date National Grid has carried out non-statutory consultation on its North Wales Connection project. This has

included consultation on strategic options (in 2012) and route options (in 2015). However, it appears from the SoCC that National Grid only intends to carry out a single stage of statutory consultation (both under s42 and s47) on its chosen cable route. This raises a number of issues for the scope of the consultation included within the SoCC:

- the need to be clear about the matters for which National Grid is seeking the public's views and feedback (bearing in mind that the pre-application consultation process is meant to deliver genuine engagement through consultation, not merely presentation);
- It is critical the consultation is done well and engages as many people as possible.
- the extent to which the consultation documents will clearly set out how the preferred route has been identified and the regard that has been had to the previous non-statutory consultation in arriving at that route.

### **Conclusion**

This letter provides a constructive overview of the Council's views on the final draft SoCC submitted by National Grid.

As highlighted above there are a number of matters that require further consideration or detail before the Council can be confident that the SoCC will deliver effective community consultation. Based on the above matters we request a further revised draft from National Grid before the SoCC is finalised.

Finally, I would reiterate the Council's original position and with particular reference to the extraordinary meeting of the Full Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2015, where Members endorse their previously established position in that no additional electricity transmission lines and pylons are constructed across Anglesey and the Menai Strait.

The Council has formally requested National Grid to commit to further investigation of a fully undergrounded option across Anglesey.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any further information and we look forward to your feedback to this letter.

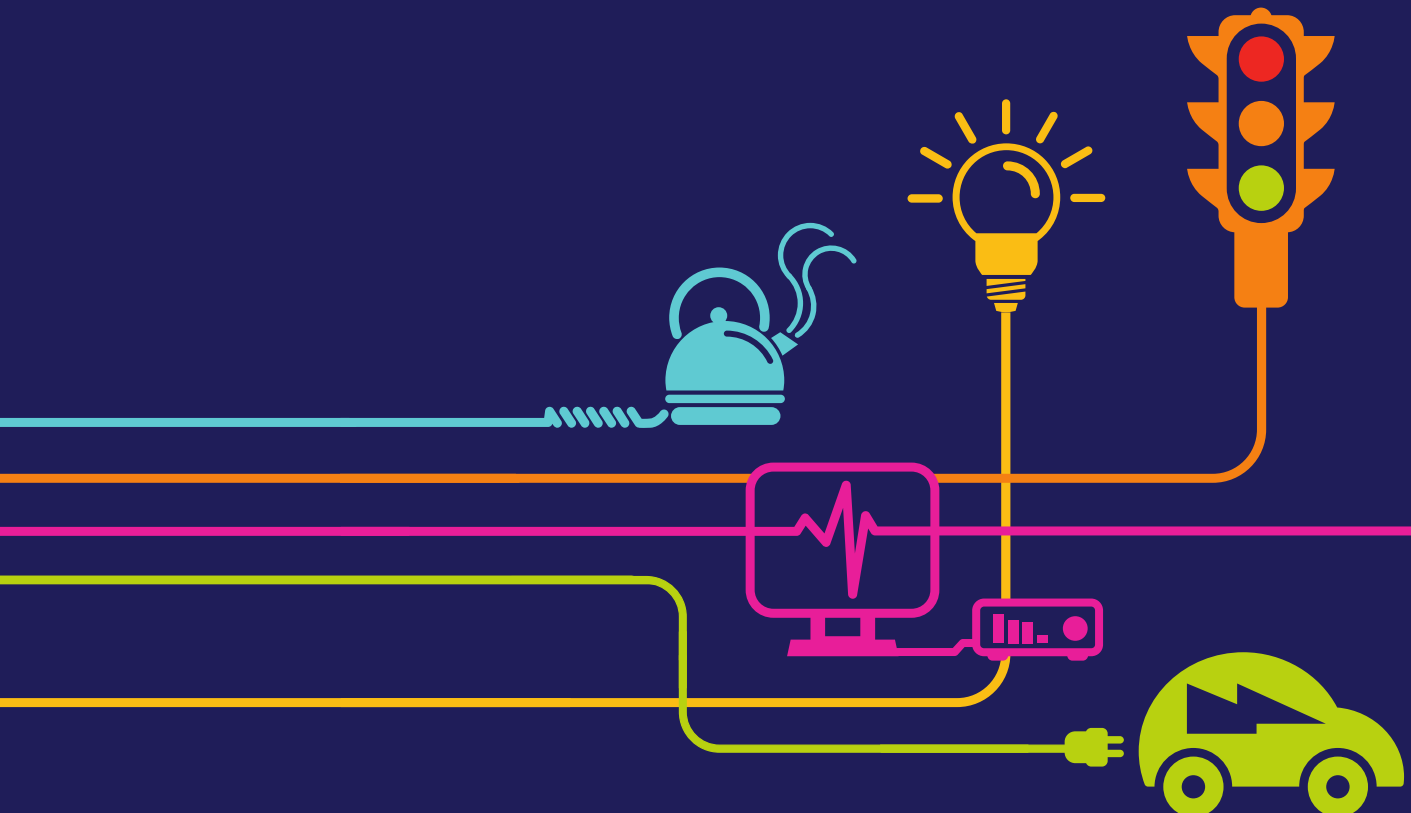
Yours sincerely,

Dr Gwynne Jones  
Chief Executive

# Draft Statement of Community Consultation

North Wales Connection Project  
Connecting new low carbon energy in North Wales

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



## Contents

1	NATIONAL GRID NORTH WALES CONNECTION PROJECT .....	3
2	OUR WORK IN NORTH WALES .....	4
3	OUR AUTUMN 2016 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION .....	10
4	SUBMITTING FEEDBACK AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT .....	16
5	CONSULTATION IN ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION .....	17
6	ADDITIONAL WORK IN WEST GWYNEDD: WORK NEEDED TO REINFORCE THE EXISTING ELECTRICITY NETWORK .....	18

# 1 NATIONAL GRID NORTH WALES CONNECTION PROJECT

## 1.1 Introduction

This Statement of Community Consultation is about National Grid's North Wales Connection Project, comprising proposals to connect new low carbon energy in North Wales to the national electricity network. It explains the community consultation we will undertake with the local communities in Anglesey and North Gwynedd near to our proposals. Specifically it covers:

- what we are proposing to build, where and when
- the consenting process for our work
- where, who and when we are consulting
- how we are consulting, including the materials we will prepare and the engagement activities we will undertake
- why feedback is important and how it influences the development of our proposals
- how to get involved and provide feedback

The consultation will be the opportunity for local communities to get involved and influence how the connection is built.

**We plan to consult on our proposals for 10 weeks in autumn 2016.**

*[Exact dates will be provided when this SoCC is published for the consultation]*

## 1.2 What is a Statement of Community Consultation?

Our work in North Wales is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the planning process set out in the Planning Act 2008 (the Act). This means we need a Development Consent Order (DCO) before we can build the proposals.

Section 47(1) of the Act requires applicants to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, with people living in the vicinity of the land'. This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) has been prepared in accordance with this requirement and explains the statutory pre-application consultation we intend to undertake.

We've developed this SoCC in consultation with the relevant local authorities, Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council. It is designed to help members of the community understand how they can take part in our consultation and what they can influence.

We're committed to ensuring our community consultation is accessible, understandable and meaningful. These guiding principles have informed the information set out in this document and the materials we will provide for this consultation.

This is a statutory consultation and we anticipate it will be the last project-wide consultation before we make our applications for consent to the relevant authorities. This community consultation is an opportunity to have your say and influence how we develop our proposals.

This SoCC will be accompanied by an Engagement Plan, which will be prepared prior to the consultation. The plan will explain in more detail the consultation activities we will undertake including information such as specific dates, venues and times of our public exhibitions and locations where people can view our project documents.

## 2 OUR WORK IN NORTH WALES

### 2.1 New low carbon energy in North Wales

The North Wales Connection Project is about connecting new low carbon energy generation in North Wales to the national electricity network.

Wales and the rest of the UK needs new secure and reliable energy supplies while at the same time tackling climate change. This means a large investment in new low carbon power sources.

In North Wales, there has been a drive to put Anglesey at the forefront of energy research and development, production and servicing. The aim is to harness a rich mix of energy, including nuclear, wind, tidal, biomass and solar.

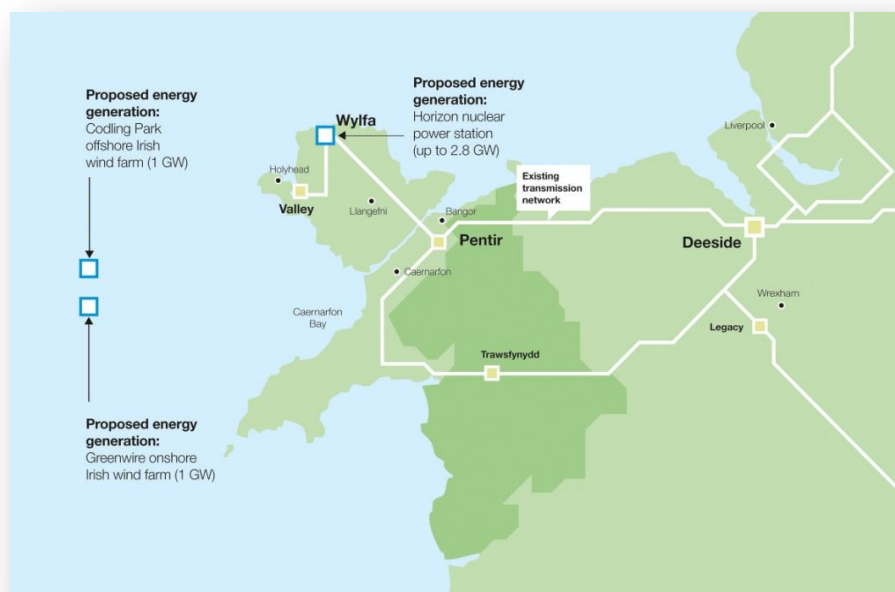
It is estimated this drive could contribute nearly £12 billion to the Anglesey and North Wales economy over the next 15 years and achieve social and environmental gains across the region.

### 2.2 Our role

National Grid owns and manages the grid to which many different energy sources are connected. It is our role to connect new power sources to the national grid so homes and businesses can use the electricity.

In North Wales, we are currently contracted to connect a significant amount of new low carbon power:

- Wylfa Newydd: Horizon Nuclear Power's new 2.8 gigawatt (GW) nuclear power station in Anglesey
- Greenwire: 1 GW onshore wind farm in Ireland
- Codling Park: 1 GW offshore wind farm sited off the coast of Ireland



New energy sources to be connected and the existing transmission network in North Wales

## 2.3 What we are proposing to build

There is an existing high voltage electricity network in North Wales which serves the region and also transmits power generated in the area to the rest of the UK. This existing network has supported the generation in North Wales for many years, but it will not be sufficient to transmit the amount of new generation proposed in North Wales. New infrastructure is therefore needed.

This proposed new infrastructure will connect the proposed generation and reinforce the network in North Wales to ensure secure electricity supplies to the local area and beyond. You can read more about the need for our work and the requirements of the electricity network in our *Project Need Case*<sup>1</sup> document, which is available on our website.

### *Work in Anglesey and North Gwynedd between Wylfa and Pentir*

To meet the needs of the new low carbon power in North Wales, we are proposing:

- upgrade works to the existing Wylfa substation to accommodate new equipment needed
- a new connection (in addition to the existing overhead line) from Wylfa Newydd in North Anglesey to Pentir substation in North Gwynedd. This is proposed to be made up of overhead lines on pylons and a section underground at the Menai Strait
- equipment to make the transition from overhead to underground, such as sealing end compounds on each side of the Menai Strait
- to cross the Menai Strait (such as by tunnelling, drilling or installation within other infrastructure) and the new infrastructure associated with this crossing
- an extension to the existing substation at Pentir to accommodate new equipment needed
- temporary works to enable construction such as construction compounds, road access points and lay down areas along the entirety of the connection

### *Work in West Gwynedd*

In addition to our proposals between Wylfa and Pentir we are proposing additional work in West Gwynedd to reinforce the network and ensure power from the new low carbon generation can be provided locally and beyond. The work in West Gwynedd does not form part of our autumn 2016 community consultation and we will engage local communities separately on this. You can read more about this work and the likely consenting process in section six of this document.

## 2.4 Benefits and impacts of our proposals

The new generation and our connection will help the UK meet its emission reduction targets and provide secure and reliable energy for communities in North Wales and beyond. Our work is also needed to unlock the billions of pounds of investment in Anglesey and facilitate the economic ambitions for North Wales in relation to energy generation.

These benefits cannot be achieved, however, without some effects, including those which are linked to the construction and operation of our new connection and the associated development. These potentially include effects on landscape and visual amenity; ecology and wildlife; water and air quality;

---

<sup>1</sup> *National Grid North Wales Connection Project Need Case, January 2015* - [http://nationalgrid.opendebate.co.uk/files/nationalgrid/North\\_Wales/National\\_Grid\\_North\\_Wales\\_Connection\\_Need\\_Case\\_January\\_2015.pdf](http://nationalgrid.opendebate.co.uk/files/nationalgrid/North_Wales/National_Grid_North_Wales_Connection_Need_Case_January_2015.pdf)



drainage and flood risk; archaeology and cultural heritage; noise and vibration; and transportation and socio-economic factors. Many of these effects can be reduced or avoided through careful design and the use of mitigation measures – part of the reason we consult is to get your thoughts on how we can best achieve this.

## **2.5 The consenting process**

New electricity lines longer than 2km are classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the planning process set out in the Planning Act 2008. This process requires that applications for consent are determined centrally, by the UK government, rather than by the local planning authority (such as a county council).

Developers of NSIP projects (such as National Grid) require a Development Consent Order (DCO) before proposals can be built.

Based on our work and consultation to date, we anticipate that our proposals from Wylfa to Pentir will include overhead lines greater than 2km and we will therefore require a DCO.

When our proposals are finalised following consultation, we will make an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate. It is the Inspectorate's role to examine DCO applications and make a recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State with responsibility for deciding the application. In the case of the North Wales Connection Project, this would be the Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change.

The DCO application will be determined in accordance with National Policy Statements (NPSs) which set out the UK government's objectives and policies for new nationally significant infrastructure. There are two NPSs that are relevant to our work:

- EN-1 is the overarching statement that explains the need for new energy infrastructure; and
- EN-5 which focuses specifically on the development of nationally significant electricity network infrastructure.

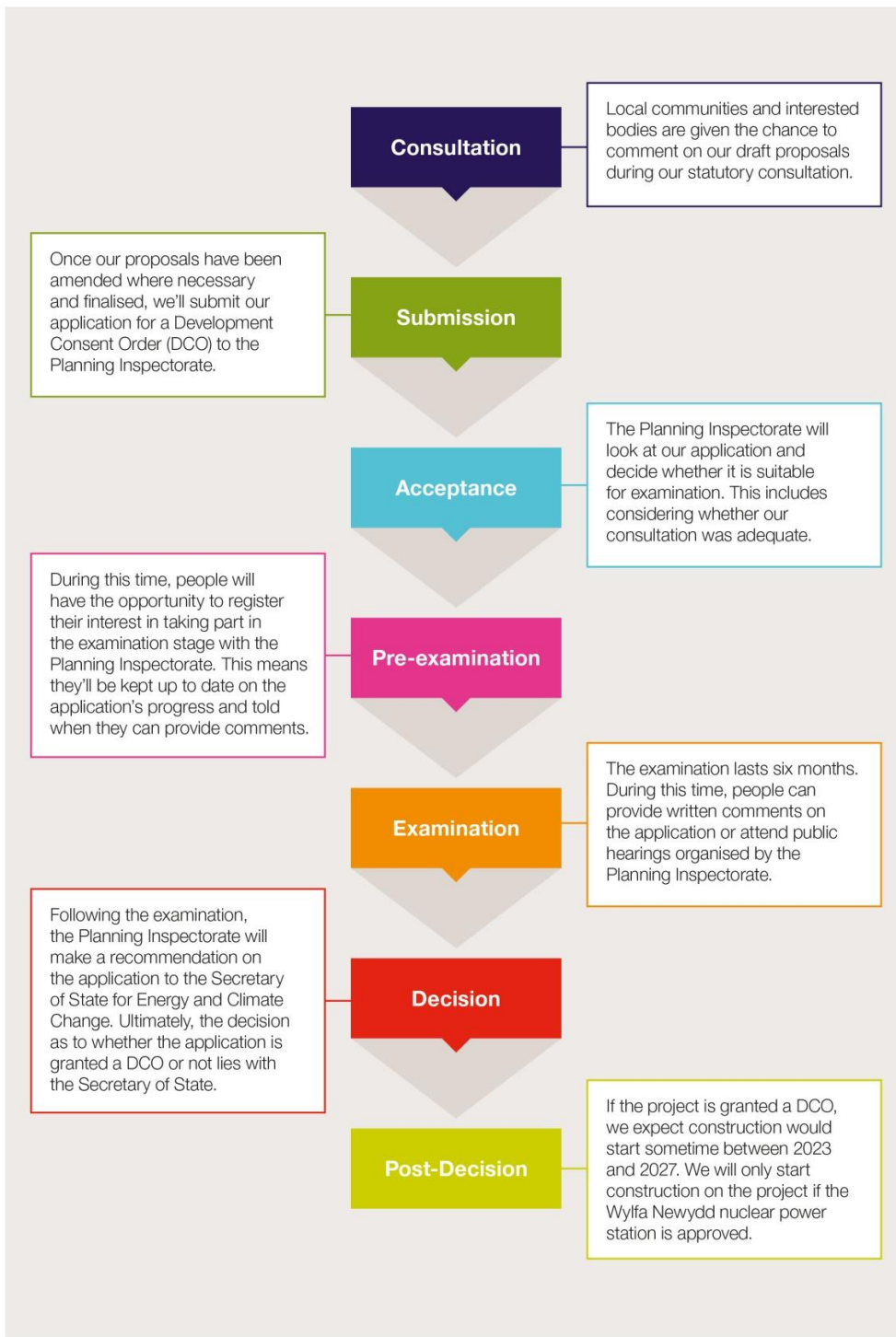
### *The development consent consultation and application process*

Before submitting an application, the Planning Act 2008 requires developers, such as National Grid, to carry out consultation with local communities and statutory consultees. The UK government notes the early involvement of local communities, local authorities and statutory consultees can bring about significant benefits for all parties.

It allows these groups to influence the way projects are developed and how they are integrated into the community. It helps local people understand better what a particular project means for them, so that concerns are resolved early. It allows an applicant to obtain important information about the economic, social and environmental impacts of a scheme from consultees so that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into the project before an application is submitted.

As part of this process, the Planning Inspectorate will follow a number of steps to receive and review the application, and seek further comment from interested bodies and individuals.

This process is set-out in the diagram on the next page.



More information on the planning process for NSIPs can be found at <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

### *Associated development*

It is possible that some parts of our work associated with Wylfa Newydd will not be included within the DCO application such as highway enabling works. Any such work is known as ‘associated development’.

For this work, we will apply for separate consents through the appropriate planning regime, such as the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

However, to ensure we provide local communities with a complete picture of our proposals, we are providing relevant information for all elements of our work at this consultation.

### **2.6 Our work and consultation to date**

Mindful of the relevant requirements and guidance, our approach is to develop our projects in a step-by-step process. This is explained in [‘Our approach to the design and routeing of new electricity transmission lines’](#) document.

At each stage we develop options, assess them and consult on them where feedback can make a meaningful contribution. That feedback then informs our ongoing development of the project.

Together, the assessments we undertake and feedback we receive help us understand the effects of our work and make decisions on how best to manage them.

Our proposals in North Wales have been in development since 2010. We’ve held two stages of consultation to provide local communities and specialist bodies with the opportunity to comment on our proposals and influence our decisions. We’ve also provided additional information between consultation stages to keep people up to date as our work progressed. Our community consultation in autumn 2016 will be the next step in this ongoing process.

Our autumn 2016 community consultation is a statutory consultation on our detailed proposals. A statutory stage will typically take place when a proposed project has been worked up in detail and is ready for comment, and this consultation is then undertaken in accordance with the relevant planning regulations. Comments received to all our consultations have been and will continue to be taken into account and influence the proposals.

We anticipate that the autumn 2016 consultation will be the final project-wide consultation before we make an application for a DCO and, if necessary, applications for the project’s associated development.

### *Our consultation stages*

Stage One: Autumn 2012	Consultation on strategic options, preferred connection option and route corridor options.
Stage Two: Autumn 2015	Consultation on route options within the preferred route corridor and sealing end compound search area options for an underground crossing at the Menai Strait/Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
Stage Three: Autumn 2016	Statutory consultation on proposed development including mitigation works, construction works, access roads and highways modifications etc. We will also present a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will assess the likely environmental effects of the proposed development, along with other technical documents as referred to below in section three.

*Supporting information for our work to date*

Our work and consultation to date is explained in the following documents, which are available on our website.

**Project Need Case, updated in January 2015** - explains why the North Wales Connection project and the work we have to carry out is needed.

**Strategic Options Report, updated in January 2015** - explains more about the connection options we've looked at, including overland and subsea connection options.

**Wylfa-Pentir Initial Route Corridor Report, October 2012** - examines and identifies the preliminary potential overhead route corridors between Wylfa and Pentir.

**Feedback Report, June 2014** - provides a summary of all the themes consultees raised during our first consultation and our responses.

**Summary of Key Project Changes and Updates, January 2015** - explains the key changes that have occurred since October 2012 which have required a review of the selection of our preferred strategic option and that are now reflected in the January 2015 version of the Strategic Options Report.

**Wylfa-Pentir Preferred Route Corridor Selection Report, October 2015** - provides more information about how we made our route corridor decision.

**Wylfa-Pentir Route Options Report, October 2015** - explains how we have identified the route options for the new connection.

## **3 OUR AUTUMN 2016 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

### **3.1 Overview**

Our autumn 2016 community consultation is a statutory consultation on our detailed proposals between Wylfa Newydd and Pentir substation.

We anticipate this will be the final consultation on the entirety of these proposals before we make an application for a DCO. Subject to the outcomes of this consultation, where appropriate, we will consider the need for any further consultation.

The purpose of the consultation is to help people living in the vicinity of these proposals to understand them and what they mean for the local area. This means they can provide further comments and influence the development of the proposals.

This section covers what we will be consulting on, when and where we will consult, the communities we will consult with and the consultation activities we will undertake for these communities. This SoCC will be accompanied by an Engagement Plan, which will be prepared prior to the consultation. The Engagement Plan will explain in more detail the consultation activities we will undertake including information such as specific dates, venues and times of our public exhibitions and locations where people can view our project documents.

### **3.2 What we will be consulting on**

We are asking for feedback on all aspects of our proposals, but in particular:

- all of our proposals on Anglesey and in North Gwynedd as detailed on page five
- enabling works associated with these proposals such as construction compounds, road modifications and access roads
- the potential environmental effects of our proposals and if consultees have suggestions for reducing these effects

Feedback will help us understand the effects of our work and establish what options there are to mitigate them when developing a final design.

### **3.3 When we will consult**

We plan to consult on our proposals for ten weeks in autumn 2016.

*[Exact dates will be provided when this SoCC is published for the consultation]*

### **3.4 Where we will consult**

We will consult in an area of approximately 3km from our proposals based on the potential effects of our work (such as visual effects and/or effects from construction). We will call this our consultation zone. Our community consultation activities will be focused on this consultation zone and seek to engage with those who may be affected by our work. This will include newsletters to households and consultation events. To promote broad awareness of the consultation on our proposals outside the consultation zone, we will also undertake local advertising and issue press releases to local media outlets.

*[A map of our consultation zone based on our proposals will be included when this SoCC is published for consultation]*

### **3.5 Who we will consult**

The Act places an importance on people living near to proposals who may be affected by the development, permanently and/or temporarily such as during construction. S47 of the Act describes these as people “*living in the vicinity of the land to which the proposed application relates*”.

Our consultation zone will be developed in accordance with these requirements and we will consult with the following people and groups:

#### *Local communities*

Households and businesses in our consultation zone.

#### *Elected representatives*

The elected representatives for these communities, including community and town councils, county councillors with wards in the consultation zone, AMs, MPs and MEPs.

#### *Hard to reach groups*

We recognise that there are individuals and groups that may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process, such as young or elderly people; people with a physical disability or learning difficulty; or whose first language is not Welsh or English.

We have worked with Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council to identify organisations that represent these individuals. We will write to these organisations at the beginning of the consultation with information on the proposals and how to take part. We will ask if they would welcome specific consultation activities for their members in addition to our already planned activities. Requests for any specific activities will be planned and agreed with the requesting organisation in order that it best meets the needs of their members.

#### *Visitors to the area*

We will approach the local tourist information offices to hold information on the consultation. This could be an information point, posters, a supply of materials or a combination of any of these. Details will be agreed with each office in line with their requirements and the space available.

We will also write to relevant businesses (such as visitor attractions, hotels, guesthouses and caravan parks in the consultation zone) with details of the consultation and how to take part. We will ask if they are willing to hold a range of consultation materials (such as newsletters and posters) for visitors to view during the consultation. The volume and type of materials would be agreed with each business according to their requirements.

#### *Local interest groups*

We have identified a number of local interest groups who may be interested in our proposals because of their area of knowledge or specialism (such as local history/heritage, wildlife, recreation/leisure organisations). These have been identified through our own research and through responses to our previous consultations. We will write to these organisations at the start of the consultation with details of the proposals and how to take part.

### 3.6 How we will consult communities

We will provide a range of materials to explain our proposals. These will include a strong visual element such as diagrams, illustrations, photographs and maps. Our materials will include information on the proposals and the role of feedback to date in the decisions that have been made.

They will make clear what is included in the community consultation, the role of feedback in the ongoing development of our proposals and how to provide comments.

#### Community documents

We will provide a range of documents to explain our proposals to communities so they can understand their effects and provide feedback. These will be in plain language, easy to follow and make strong use of graphics and images.

All of these materials will be available in Welsh and English.

These are likely to include a combination of:

- *newsletter*: mailed to addresses in the areas in which we are consulting. This will include a large map of the proposals and information on how to provide feedback
- *overview document*: a non-technical summary of the proposals and more information on the equipment we need and infrastructure we propose to build. This will also include information on how consultation feedback to date has influenced the development of our proposals
- *Q&A document*: questions on our proposals and our answers to these
- *feedback form*: a questionnaire to capture views on our proposals and the consultation we are undertaking. People will also be welcome to respond to the consultation in writing by letter or email
- *photomontages*: a range of photomontages showing the proposed location and scale of infrastructure from vantage points. These will be available on USB memory stick, to view at our consultation events and on our website

#### Additional materials

- *Website and social media* – the Welsh and English project websites will be updated to explain the latest proposals, making use of graphics, illustrations, photomontages and photography to describe our work.

A postcode searchable map will allow people to easily identify their properties in relation to our proposals and an online feedback form will be available. All of our community and technical materials, as well as maps, will be available to download.

Consultation information will be issued in Welsh and English from the Project's Twitter account (@NGNorthWales). During the consultation, it is likely that tweets will be at least daily and include updates and reminders of where events are taking place, consultation deadlines and other important information.

- *3D visualisation* – we will produce a digital visualisation of our proposals showing what they will look like in the landscape and allowing people to see them from different viewpoints. This will be available at our consultation events only (due to the specialist equipment needed to run it).
- *USB memory stick* – we will produce USBs that contain digital versions of our community materials and technical documents. These will be available at consultation events, at reference locations and on request from our community relations team. The availability of the USBs will be publicised in our newsletter.

### **Events, information and reference locations**

We'll organise a range of engagement activities for people to meet our team and/or pick-up information in locations near to our proposals. We will publicise the locations for all of these activities at the start of consultation using the community materials above.

- *Public exhibitions* – we will hold public events during the consultation. These events will be held in appropriate venues close to the proposals that are easily accessible and have high footfall (such as community centres, school halls and libraries). Events will take place across the consultation zone and be spread between weekdays and weekends. As far as possible, they will run on weekdays, 13.30-19.30, and Saturdays, 10.00-16.00.

They will give people an opportunity to talk to our team, ask questions and provide written feedback. Large scale maps, photos, a 3D visualisation and other materials will be available to view. A Welsh-speaking member of the team will be at every event.

- *Enquiries and information* – we will operate a freephone enquiry line in Welsh and English (9am-5pm Mon-Fri) with an answer phone service in operation outside of these hours and on bank holidays. Dedicated email addresses and a freepost address (see back cover for details) will also be available.
- *Information points* – a number of information points will be placed in locations with high footfall and open to the public, such as community halls and libraries in the consultation zone. The stands will hold copies of our community materials (newsletters, overviews, Q&As, feedback form) that people can take away with them as well as contact details for the project.
- *Reference locations* – our community materials, maps, detailed reports and plans will be available to the public at selected libraries and suitable civic locations in, or nearest to, the consultation zone, and at council offices.

*[exact dates, times and venues for the above activities will be provided when this SoCC is published for the consultation]*

### **Publicity**

To make sure people are aware of our consultation, the dates, event venues and times, and how to provide feedback, we will publicise the community consultation in the following ways:

- *Newsletter mailing* – we will send a newsletter to residential and business addresses in our consultation zone.
- *Advertising* – we will place adverts in local media, such as the *Daily Post*, *Anglesey Mail & Holyhead Mail* and the *North Wales Chronicle*. We'll also advertise in Welsh in *Golwg*. Where



applicable, we will also consider online advertising in these titles. Adverts will be in Welsh and English and we anticipate running adverts: approximately one week prior to the start of our consultation, at the midpoint, and shortly before the close to remind people of the closing date.

This advertising in local press will also seek to promote broad awareness of the consultation outside of the consultation zone.

- *Press releases and media outreach* – we will issue press releases to a broad range of local and regional media highlighting upcoming consultation milestones (e.g. consultation launch, a week before the end of the consultation). This will include local newspapers, Papurau Bro (community newspapers), TV and radio stations.
- *Posters* – posters publicising the consultation dates and event locations will be provided to community and town councils and venues (such as village halls) to display. Welsh and English language posters will be produced.
- *Text alerts* – everyone registered to our text service will receive alerts in Welsh and English. The text alerts will provide consultation reminders, venue dates and other alerts to registered users. People can register with us by texting NGCYM to 80800.
- *Email to website subscribers* – everyone who has registered to receive our email updates will receive emails in Welsh and English. The emails will provide consultation details and links to materials, date reminders, venue dates and other alerts. People can register for email updates on our website [www.northwalesconnection.com](http://www.northwalesconnection.com).
- *Twitter* – details of the consultation, where to find out information, event dates and details will be tweeted frequently from the Project's twitter account @NGNorthWales.

## Technical reports

We will produce a range of technical documents to explain our proposals. These will be detailed planning documents written by specialists to explain the decisions made and how technical assessments have informed these decisions. Due to the nature of these documents they will be available in English only.

These documents will be available on our website, at reference locations and events (described above) and on USB memory stick.

These technical reports are likely to include:

- *Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)*: our proposals are classified as an environmental impact assessment development, under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended). This means we need to prepare an environmental statement alongside our DCO application.

We've already collected a large amount of information about the likely environmental effects of our proposals. This information will be presented in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This report will present our initial assessments of the nature and extent of the likely environmental effects of our proposals. We will also produce a non-technical summary of the report which will be available in English and Welsh.

- *Preferred Substation Siting Report*: to explain the works required to the existing Wylfa and Pentir substations, the options considered and rationale for the preferred options selected.
- *Preferred Route Option Selection Report*: to explain the selection of the preferred route option.
- *Draft Route Alignment Report*: to explain the selection of the preferred route alignment.
- *Menai Strait Crossing Report*: to explain the options considered for crossing the Menai Strait, the options assessment undertaken and the selection of the preferred option(s). This will include information on siting of sealing end compounds and other supporting works required for the transitions from overhead to underground.

### **Requests for documents**

We are happy to respond to reasonable requests from consultees for further copies of documents. Copies of the documents, plans, maps and Preliminary Environmental Information Report will be available free of charge from National Grid in digital format on a USB memory stick. Requests for hard copies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £500 for one full suite of documents) to be paid for by the recipient in advance.

### **Other consultations**

A number of other organisations are developing proposals in the area including Horizon Nuclear Power, Greenwire onshore and Codling Park off shore wind farms.

We will liaise with these organisations, Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council to understand their plans for consultation.

Should the timing of our consultation coincide with consultations held by any of these organisations, we will make sure the scope of the separate consultations (and how to respond) is clear. We will also endeavour to arrange public exhibitions on different days so people can attend both.

## 4 SUBMITTING FEEDBACK AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

### 4.1 How to submit feedback

Consultation feedback is important in both the development of our proposals and in helping to understand the effects of our proposals in order for us to establish opportunities to mitigate these.

We plan to consult on our proposals for 10 weeks in autumn 2016.

*[Exact dates will be provided when this SoCC is published for the consultation]*

There will be several ways to submit feedback and we welcome comments in Welsh or English. People can respond in writing using any of the following methods.

- **In writing** – to our Freepost address: FREEPOST National Grid NW Connection
- **By email** – to [nationalgrid@northwalesconnection.com](mailto:nationalgrid@northwalesconnection.com)
- **Feedback form** – these will be available from our consultation events, information points, online at [www.northwalesconnection.com](http://www.northwalesconnection.com) or on request from our community relations team.

Everyone submitting their comments to us (and providing their contact details) will receive an acknowledgement that their feedback has been received and an explanation as to what happens next.

### 4.2 What happens to your feedback?

We will analyse all of the feedback and review our proposals in light of the information we have received.

Once we've reviewed our proposals following consultation, we'll assess whether our work is ready for submission. Following consultation, we may carry out further survey and appraisal work and, if we need to make any material changes to our proposals, we would carry out appropriate consultation on these changes.

Our application for a DCO will be accompanied by a consultation report, which will set out how we have considered and had regard to all feedback received. It will explain how the comments we've received from members of the public and technical stakeholders have shaped and influenced our work. This will be publically available.

## 5 CONSULTATION IN ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

In addition to the community consultation, the Act also requires that a number of additional groups are consulted. These are defined as follows and include, for example, relevant local authorities, technical specialists (such as Natural Resources Wales and Cadw), major landowners (such as the MOD or the Crown Estate), transport authorities and emergency services.

### 5.1 Additional consultees

*s42 (1) (a): prescribed consultees*

- Prescribed bodies as listed in Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended)
- Amongst others, the prescribed bodies to be consulted include all community councils in whose area the proposals are sited, and adjoining councils

*s42 (1) (b) and 43: local authorities as described in the Act*

- Local authorities, as defined under s43, including those in whose area the proposals are sited, and adjoining local authorities
- We will also consult with the relevant departments within the Welsh Government

*s42 (1) (d) and 44: those with an interest in the land to which the proposed application relates (such as ownership, tenancy and/or other interests)*

- All persons identified as having an interest in the land to which the proposals relate, within one or more of the categories set out in section 44

At the same time as our community consultation, we will consult these consultees directly and will be inviting them to comment on our proposals during the consultation. We'll then consider their feedback alongside the feedback we receive from the public.

## 6 ADDITIONAL WORK IN WEST GWYNEDD: WORK NEEDED TO REINFORCE THE EXISTING ELECTRICITY NETWORK

In addition to our proposals between Wylfa and Pentir, we are proposing additional work to reinforce the network and ensure power from new low carbon generation such as Wylfa Newydd and Greenwire and Codling Park wind farms can be provided locally and beyond.

This work in West Gwynedd does not form part of the autumn 2016 community consultation and we will engage local communities separately on this.

### 6.1 National Grid's proposals in West Gwynedd

To facilitate the additional low carbon generation and enable the onward transmission of power, National Grid is proposing works to the existing electricity network in West Gwynedd. This will include:

- a new substation near Bryncir to connect to the local network
- upgrading existing underground cables at the Glaslyn Estuary

The work in this area is described in these documents, which are available on our website:

- **West Gwynedd Substation Siting Study** - examines and identifies suitable site options for a substation in West Gwynedd.
- **Glaslyn Estuary Route Corridor Report** - examines our preliminary preference for an underground connection, and identifies a proposed route corridor and potential route alignment at the Glaslyn Estuary.

### 6.2 The planning process for National Grid's proposals

The works need to be complete by 2020 for the Greenwire and Codling Park wind farm connections and by 2025 for the Wylfa Newydd connection.

As the connection dates for the wind farms are in advance of the connection date for Wylfa Newydd, the works are being driven by the wind farms and do not form part of the Wylfa Newydd connection project.

When we have established the most suitable planning process for the additional work in Gwynedd, we will let people know. At the current time it is anticipated that consent for some of these works may be required under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA).

### 6.3 Consultation in West Gwynedd

When the proposals, planning process and associated timescales for this element of the works are more defined, we will engage with the communities in the areas potentially affected and their elected representatives. We will prepare a consultation strategy so communities which are potentially affected know how they can get involved and have their say.

### 6.4 Greenwire and Codling Park proposals

Greenwire and Codling Park will be responsible for developing the most appropriate way to connect their own respective wind farms to the Pentir substation. The methods for doing this and any plans for consultation will be developed in conjunction with Gwynedd Council and delivered by these developers.



North Wales Connection Project

Call our freephone: 0800 990 3567

Send an email to: [nationalgrid@northwalesconnection.com](mailto:nationalgrid@northwalesconnection.com)

Visit our project website: [www.nationalgrid.com/northwalesconnection](http://www.nationalgrid.com/northwalesconnection)