



The Planning Inspectorate
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Project update meeting for the Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Scheme

Status	Final
Author	Philippa Davey
Date	9 March 2015
Meeting with	Snowdonia Pumped Hydro Ltd (SPH)/GVA (applicant)
Venue	Temple Quay House
Attendees	<u>Planning Inspectorate</u> Ken Taylor (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Philippa Davey (Assistant Case Officer) Jenny Colfer (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Hannah Nelson (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) <u>SPH</u> Ben Lewis - GVA Catherine Anderson - AECOM Julian Boswall - Burges Salmon Sarah Nixon - SPH Dave Holmes - SPH
Meeting objectives	Project update and discussion of matters arising from scoping opinion for the Glyn Rhonwy pumped storage scheme.
Circulation	All

Welcome and Introductions (all)

Following introductions, the Planning Inspectorate (The Inspectorate) advised on its openness policy that any advice given would be recorded and placed on the National Infrastructure Planning Portal website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended (PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

Project update

The applicant gave a summary of the progress of the project to date. They intend to submit draft documents to the Inspectorate by 10 April 2015 for feedback, and to submit the DCO application by 26 May 2015.

EIA Update

The applicant confirmed that preliminary site investigation works are being undertaken to provide more information on the baseline conditions to inform the EIA. The applicant does not intend to update the baseline traffic surveys provided in the consented TCPA application. The Inspectorate advised that the baseline data used in the EIA should be up to date and reflect current baseline conditions.

The applicant confirmed that the design of the development has had initial input from a panel engineer to ensure that the description of the development assessed is a realistic proposal. The Inspectorate advised that the development parameters should be clearly described and justified in the ES and the maximum parameters assessed as the worst case scenario.

Consents

The applicant is aware of the consents they will need for the scheme and gave an overview, which includes an Environmental Permit, consent under the Reservoirs Act, European Protect Species Licences and Common Land consent. A separate consent for the grid connection would be required and this would be the responsibility of the District Network Operator (DNO) (or, subject to negotiation, an independent Connection Provider). The route of the grid connection is likely to follow that of the route detailed in the Scoping Report. A s278 consent would also be sought from the local authority in relation to proposed works to upgrade a single track road to the west of the proposed development which is a proposed route for construction vehicles.

Consultation

Statutory consultation has been carried out and is due to end on 13 March 2015. The public exhibitions were well attended with 220 people over 2 days. At the date of the meeting the feedback forms had returned 340 responses, with the majority view of these responses being positive. A key area of concern from the responses was the potential impact on recreational activities in Llyn Padarn and the maintenance of access routes. Concern was also raised over potential vibration impacts on properties located adjacent to construction access routes. The applicant proposes to carry out property surveys on properties where potential impacts could occur – the scheduling of the survey work is yet to be determined.