2 EIA APPROACH & CONSULTATION

2 EIA APPROACH & CONSULTATION

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The purpose of this chapter is to provide a more detailed description of the EIA process, as well as outlining the methodology and relevant guidance used to undertake the EIA and the structure of the remainder of the ES. The chapter also outlines the various responses received from consultees and the SoS in response to the Scoping Report and PEI, prior to the submission of the DCO application to PINs.

2.2 The Need for EIA

2.2.1 EIAs have been required for certain major developments since the implementation in the UK of the European Council Directive on Environmental Assessment (EC Directive 85/337/EEC). The Directive, which was implemented in the UK in 1988, has subsequently been amended by Directives 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC, 2009/31/EC and 2011/70/EU, and a codified Directive 2014/52/EU was adopted in 2015.

2.2.2 The Directive is implemented principally by the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2014, although for development control purposes in Wales it is implemented by the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1999 (as amended).

2.2.3 As the Development comprises an electricity generating station with a capacity of more than 50MW, it constitutes a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under section 15 of the Planning Act 2008 (hereafter 'the Act'). Accordingly, it requires the grant of a DCO under section 31 of the Act. This requires an application to be made to the PINS for a DCO who, in turn, will make a recommendation to the SoS for Energy and Climate Change as to whether a DCO should be granted. The SoS then

makes the final decision on whether to approve or not taking into account this recommendation.

2.2.4 The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations) apply in the case of applications made under the Act. The EIA of the Development will be undertaken in accordance with these EIA Regulations.

2.2.5 Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations identifies development types and thresholds for which EIA must always be undertaken. Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations identifies development which may require EIA to be undertaken, but only where the project is likely to have significant effects by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location. Developments that require EIA are known as 'EIA Development'. Applications for projects considered to be EIA Development must be accompanied by an ES. In order to comply with Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations, an ES must contain certain prescribed information including, inter alia, a description of the project, details of alternatives that have been considered, a description of the environment, a description of the significant effects on the environment, proposed mitigation and a non-technical summary.

2.2.6 The Development is below the threshold used to define a Schedule 1 development; however it is considered to be a Schedule 2 development for the purposes of the EIA Regulations. SPH provided notification to PINS on 5 January 2015, under Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) that it would be submitting an ES as part of the DCO application.

2.2.7 Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations highlights the information to be included in an ES. Part 1 highlights such information 'as is reasonably required' and Part 2 the information that must be provided as a minimum. This information is highlighted in Table 2-1 below, which also provides confirmation of where the information is provided within this ES.

Table 2-1 Information Required for Inclusion in an Environmental Statement	
EIA Regulations: Schedule 4, Part 1	**Location within ES**
Description of the development, including in particular : A description of the physical characteristics of the whole development and the land use requirements during the construction and operational phases; A description of the main characteristics of the production processes, for instance, nature and quantity of the materials used; An estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (water, air and soil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation, etc) resulting from the operation of the proposed development.	Volume 2 Chapter 4 Project Description Volume 2 Chapter 13 Noise & Vibration Volume 2 Chapter 14 Air Quality Volume 2 Chapter 16 Environmental Management Volume 3 Figure 4.1 Development
An outline of the main alternatives studied by the applicant or appellant and an indication of the main reasons for the choice made, taking into account the environmental effects.	Volume 2 Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives
A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development, including in particular, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects
A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment, which should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development, resulting from: The existence of the development; The use of natural resources; The emission of pollutants, the creation of nuisances and the elimination of waste and the description of the forecasting methods used to assess the effects on the environment.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects

Table 2-1 Information Required for Inclusion in an Environmental Statement	
EIA Regulations: Schedule 4, Part 1	**Location within ES**
A description of the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and where possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects Summarised in Volume 2 Chapter 18 Schedule of Mitigation
A non-technical summary of the above information.	Volume 1 Non-Technical Summary
An indication of any difficulties (technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects
EIA Regulations: Schedule 4, Part 2	
Description of the development, comprising information on the site, design and size of the development.	Volume 2 Chapter 4 Project Description
A description of the measures envisaged in order to avoid, reduce and, if possible, remedy significant adverse effects.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects Summarised in Volume 2 Chapter 18 Schedule of Mitigation
The data required to identify and assess the main effects which the development is likely to have on the environment.	Volume 2 Chapter 6 Landscape Character & Visual Amenity to Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects
An outline of the main alternatives studied by the applicant or appellant and an indication of the main reasons for the choice made, taking into account the environmental effects.	Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives
A non-technical summary of the above information.	Volume 1 Non-Technical Summary

2.3 Approach to the EIA

Environmental Impact Assessment

2.3.1 EIA is the process of identifying, evaluating and, where possible, mitigating the likely significant environmental effects of a proposed development. It promotes the early identification and evaluation of the potentially significant environmental effects of a proposed development and enables appropriate

mitigation (that is measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant adverse effects) to be identified and incorporated into the design of a development, or commitments to be made to environmentally sensitive construction methods and practices.

2.3.2 The results of the EIA also ensure that decision makers such as the SoS and statutory consultees such as planning authorities, in this case Gwynedd Council, as well as other interested parties, including local communities, are aware of a development's environmental effects. These are then taken into account by the decision-maker prior to determination of an application for planning approval.

2.3.3 The main steps outlined in the EIA Regulations are as follows:

- Production of a Scoping Report to identify the likely significant effects (scoped in) and the proposed methodology for their assessment in line with relevant legislation, guidance and methods, and justification for any significant effects that are not likely (scoped out). The Scoping Report will also seek agreement of study areas, data sources, survey methodologies and terminology;
- Baseline surveys are undertaken to identify and describe the environmental character of the area that could potentially be affected by the Development. Where baseline data indicates major constraints to the Development, this information is to be provided to the design team immediately;
- Relevant natural and manmade processes that may change the character of the site are identified;
- Consideration is then given to the possible interactions between the Development and both existing and future site conditions. These interactions or impacts are assessed using set criteria based on accepted guidance and good practice;
- Using the initial designs of the Development, the likely significant environmental effects, both direct and indirect, can be established;

- Production of a Preliminary Environmental Information report for consultation purposes:
- Recommendations are made to avoid, minimise or mitigate adverse effects and enhance positive effects. Alterations to the design will then be reassessed and the significance of likely residual environmental impacts ascertained; and
- Following statutory consultation, the results of the EIA in combination with the responses to the Scoping Opinion will be set out in an ES that will accompany the application for a DCO.

2.3.4 This Final ES has sought to address comments that were raised by consultees and stakeholders during statutory consultation carried out under s42 and s47 of the Act. These comments are detailed in Table 2.9 and addressed within each individual technical chapter as necessary. Full details of the consultation activities can be found in the Consultation Report (Document 5.01) and in its accompanying summary report (Document 5.01.1).

Scoping

2.3.5 The 2012 ES accompanied the T&CPA application and an electronic copy is contained on CD in Volume 3, Appendix 2.1. All the previous correspondence related to the EIA methodology and approach is appended to the 2012 ES within its Appendix 1.4.

2.3.6 As the planning permission for the approved scheme was granted in September 2014, it was initially agreed through dialogue with PINS that a formal scoping opinion from the SoS was not to be requested and that direct scoping opinions could be sought with the main statutory consultees as follows:

- Gwynedd Council;
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
- Welsh Government Highways;
- Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS);

- CADW; and
- Snowdonia National Park Authority.

2.3.7 The principal rationale for this approach was that there were only very minor differences between the construction methods and built form of the Development and the approved scheme. The approved scheme was also supported by a full EIA. In light of this, a scoping letter was submitted to the consultees listed above on the 12th November 2014 (a copy of this letter is included in Volume 3, Appendix 2.2).

2.3.8 In parallel with this process, SPH undertook a land referencing exercise and a review of the engineering design (in light of the preliminary ground investigation (GI) works). The combined results of these exercises required some amendments to be made to the Order Limits for the Development.

2.3.9 After careful consideration, and detailed discussions during a site visit and meeting with PINS, Gwynedd Council and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the 2nd December 2014, SPH decided to request a formal scoping opinion through PINS, in particular in light of the changes to the Order Limits at that time.

2.3.10 The formal request for a Scoping Opinion from the Secretary of State was submitted to PINS on the 5th January 2015. This was accompanied by a Scoping Report setting out the differences between the approved scheme and the Development due to the increase in generating capacity to 99.9MW, the related amendments to the Order Limits and the proposed scope of the ES to be prepared to accompany the DCO application. It also provided an overview of the expected timeline for the submission of the DCO application and the formal consultation which preceded it. A copy of the Scoping Report is contained within Volume 3, Appendix 2.3.

2.3.11 Subsequently, a Scoping Opinion was received from the Secretary of State on the 11th February 2015 (contained within Appendix 2.4) and a summary of this Opinion is provided in Section 2.7.

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

2.3.12 In order to facilitate consultation with and to inform statutory consultees, interested parties and the public, preliminary environmental information is required as part of the s42 consultation to provide consultees with information on the main likely significant effects of an NSIP; this is typically in the form of a PEI Report.

2.3.13 However, given the previous planning history for the development site, the preliminary environmental information was presented in the form of the Draft ES (February 2015) for the purposes of consultation. This provided the full results of the EIA for the Development at the time of publication.

2.3.14 The Draft ES was sent either electronically (on CD) or in hard copy to all identified s42 consultees in advance of the 12th February 2015. Consultees were then given until the 13 March 2015 (30 days) to respond with any comments on the Development. It was also available for viewing at a number of locations in the vicinity of the Development and at the public exhibitions held at the end of February. Full details of the consultation activities can be found in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (Document 5.01) and in the Summary of Consultation Report (Document 5.01.1).

2.3.15 A summary of the responses are provided in Section 2.7 with a copy of the Draft ES contained within Volume 3 Appendix 2.5.

2.4 The Assessment Method

2.4.1 Methodologies for each subject area are presented within each of the technical chapters. These methodologies are based upon recognised good practice and guidelines specific to each subject area, and take into account the methods used in the 2012 ES, the SoS' Scoping Opinion and any additional requirements that have been identified in connection with the Development.

2.4.2 Consideration has been given to the 2012 ES and its conclusions. To help consultees to the 2012 ES to understand the differences as a result of the increased generating capacity, the introductory section in each technical

chapter identifies any differences between the assessment and/or effects presented in the 2012 ES and this Final ES. The reason for the difference, e.g. the extent of the Rochdale Envelope, the Order Limits or the availability of updated information to inform the assessment, is also clearly highlighted. This is outlined in more detail in Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives.

2.4.3 The heading "*Summary of 2012 Environmental Statement Chapter*" has been included in each technical chapter to highlight the conclusions of the EIA for the approved scheme. Consequently a second heading "*Scope of 2015 Environmental Statement Chapter*" has been added to highlight where elements of the chapter may have been changed, updated or amended, and in which section.

2.4.4 An impact assessment summary table, consistent in each chapter, has been added with an additional column identifying any additional change in significance and/or additional mitigation measures between the 2012 ES and the Final ES (dated October 2015), where appropriate.

2.4.5 All cumulative effects (both intra- and inter-project effects) have been assembled in to one chapter and these are presented in Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects.

2.4.6 Chapter 18 Schedule of Mitigation provides a summary of all the mitigation measures identified in the ES chapters, and outlines how these will be secured either through DCO Requirements or through a separate consenting regime.

Approach to the Assessment of Effects

2.4.7 The approach is broadly the same for all specialist topic areas with some variation in the descriptions of assessment criteria. For each topic, the assessment of significance will be informed by the sensitivity of the existing or baseline environmental conditions or character, and the magnitude of the effect or change to the existing conditions or baseline character which occur as a result.

2.4.8 The determination of the significance of the likely environmental effects arising from development is a key stage in the EIA process. To assess the

overall significance of an impact it is necessary to establish the magnitude of the impact occurring (i.e. the change to the existing baseline conditions as a result of the Development) and the sensitivity or importance of the receiving environment or receptor. Assessment of significance for environmental topics will combine professional judgement with the consideration of a number of factors including:

- The probability of the effect occurring based on the scale of certain, likely or unlikely;
- The sensitivity and value of the resource or receptor under consideration;
- The magnitude of the impact in relation to the degree of change which occurs as result (which includes the duration of the effect – short medium or long term);
- Reversibility of the effect;
- Comparison with legal requirements, policies and standards; and
- Comparison with applicable environmental thresholds.

2.4.9 The value of the receptors is assessed according to the relative importance of existing environmental features on or near to the site, or by the sensitivity of receptors i.e. whether they are likely to be robust enough to be unaffected by the Development or alternatively are highly susceptible to the type of impacts likely to occur. Criteria for the determination of sensitivity or value of receptors are established based on approved guidance, legislation, statutory designation and/or professional judgment.

Sensitivity or value of Receptors

2.4.10 Table 2-2 provides general definitions of the sensitivity criteria used within the assessment. In each specialist chapter of the ES, criteria will be explained with reference to that particular discipline.

Table 2-2 Definition of Sensitivity/value	
Sensitivity	**Definition**
Very High	The receptor has little or no ability to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of very high environmental value, or of international importance.
High	The receptor has low ability to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of high environmental value, or of national importance.
Medium	The receptor has moderate capacity to absorb change without significantly altering its present character, has some environmental value, or is of regional importance.
Low	The receptor is tolerant of change without detriment to its character, is low environmental value, or local importance.
Negligible	The receptor is resistant to change and is of little environmental value.

Magnitude of Effect

2.4.11 The magnitude of potential effects on environmental baseline conditions is identified through consideration of the Development taking into account the scale or degree of change from the existing situation as a result of the effect; and the duration and reversibility of the effect, as well as consideration of relevant legislative or policy standards or guidelines.

2.4.12 Table 2-3 provides general definitions of effect magnitude criteria. In each specialist chapter of the ES, effect magnitude criteria will be explained with reference to that particular discipline.

Table 2-3 Definition of Magnitude	
Magnitude	**Definition**
High	Total loss or major alteration to key elements/features of the baseline conditions such that post development character/composition of baseline conditions will be fundamentally changed.
Medium	Loss or alteration to one or more key elements/features of the baseline conditions such that post development character/composition of the baseline conditions will be materially changed.
Low	Minor shift away from baseline conditions. Changes arising from the alteration will be detectable but not material; the underlying character/composition of the baseline conditions will be similar to the pre-development situation.
Negligible	Very little change from baseline conditions. Change is barely distinguishable, approximating to a “no change” situation.

Assessment of Significance of Effects

2.4.13 The approach to the assessment of significance is outlined in Table 2-4. A combination of the magnitude of the effect under consideration and the sensitivity of the receiving environment determines the significance of effect. It should be noted that this general approach is a framework and should not be treated as a matrix. In each specialist chapter of the ES, significance of effects will be explained with reference to that particular discipline.

Table 2-4 Assessment of Significance					
Magnitude	**Sensitivity**				
	Very High	**High**	**Medium**	**Low**	**Negligible**
High	Major	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Minor
Medium	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Low	Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

2.4.14 The significance of the effects arising from the Development will be reported using a seven-point scale, as follows:

- Major Adverse;
- Moderate Adverse;
- Minor Adverse;
- Negligible;
- Minor Beneficial;
- Moderate Beneficial; and
- Major Beneficial.

2.4.15 For some specialist topics, additional categories have been added where a greater level of definition is required.

2.4.16 Effects predicted to be Minor or Negligible are considered to be manageable and are therefore '**Not Significant**'. Effects assessed as Moderate or Major are considered to be '**Significant**'.

2.4.17 These classifications may differ between the specialist topic chapters, but where this occurs, the variation will be explained clearly and fully.

2.4.18 For the EIA, initially the assessments will consider the risk of potential impacts before mitigation. Where there is a risk of a significant impact occurring, mitigation/management will normally be required to seek to reduce the level of risk to minor or negligible levels.

Residual Effects

2.4.19 Effects are concluded to be significant or not significant. In some chapters, guidance is used which specifies its own variation to this assessment matrix. This will be explained and justified as appropriate. Further detail is provided in each technical chapter.

2.4.20 Judgements of significance are made based on a combination of perceived value and sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change, and will also include, where necessary, an element of professional judgement by each of the technical specialists. The final evaluation of significance considers the residual effects, assuming all mitigation measures are applied. The terminology for expressing significance has been outlined in Sections 2.4.8 to 2.4.18. Where appropriate, any topic-specific deviation to this by guidance and best practice is described in the technical chapters.

2.4.21 Mitigation measures that avoid, reduce or offset the consequences of the Development may be included within the development design, whilst others may require adherence to particular constraints on construction methodology and/or mode of operation. Where measures are integral to the design, the Applicant will commit to their implementation, by means of DCO Requirements, for example. The design team employed an iterative approach to the design of the Development. The design evolved through the EIA process as different constraints were identified and evaluated. This approach enabled mitigation measures to be integrated into the design to avoid or reduce adverse effects. Measures may also be incorporated to enhance positive effects.

2.5 Types of Effect

2.5.1 Potential effects have been separated into three types based on the different phases of development.

Construction Effects

2.5.2 These are effects that begin and end during the construction phase. This covers the likes of the potential effects of construction traffic, noise and

vibration from construction, dust generation, site runoff, mud on roads, risk of fuel/oil spillage, visual intrusion of machinery on site for example.

Operational Effects

2.5.3 Operational effects are those long-term effects that would occur as a result of the Development such as the land take associated with permanent physical infrastructure as well as effects which occur as a result of its operation.

Decommissioning Effects

2.5.4 Decommissioning effects are temporary, short term effects that will occur during the removal of the Development at the end of its 125 year operational life time.

Indirect or Secondary Effects

2.5.5 For the purposes of the EIA, the potential effects of the project are considered in terms of effects on each discrete environmental topic area. However, the inter-relationship between topic areas such as water quality and ecology means effects cannot always be considered in isolation since changes affecting one factor may often have secondary implications for other areas.

2.5.6 For example, if one effect of the Development is to alter the quality of a watercourse, flora and fauna may be affected as a secondary effect. Under some circumstances, it is possible for the secondary or indirect effects to be more significant than the changes that triggered them. Where there is the potential for secondary or indirect effects this is highlighted and assessed in the EIA.

Cumulative and In-Combination Effects

2.5.7 Cumulative and in-combination effects on specific resources or receptors are described, where relevant, in each of the specialist chapters of this ES. Cumulative effects may occur where, for example, landscape and visual resources, land use or ecological receptors are affected by other developments in addition to the Development i.e. two effects which are not

significant could combine to result in a potential cumulative effect which is significant.

2.5.8 In consultation with Gwynedd Council, it has been confirmed that there are two potential developments which will required a cumulative assessment - Wylfa C Nuclear Power Station and the Caernarfon to Bontnewydd bypass. Discussions with Horizon Nuclear Energy, the developer for the Wylfa C Nuclear Power Station project, have been undertaken to determine the potential for any inter-project cumulative effects.

2.5.9 Cumulative and in-combination effects have been defined and considered within the EIA and are assessed in Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects.

2.6 Rochdale Envelope

2.6.1 As the Development has evolved since the grant of planning permission for the approved scheme, further investigation into the preliminary engineering design has been undertaken. The design will continue to develop, in particular through the detailed design stage which is likely to take place prior to construction.

2.6.2 In light of this, sufficient flexibility needs to be built into the DCO to allow for the final design to reflect the most appropriate construction techniques identified for the delivery of the Development. This flexibility may be required to address unexpected constraints, such as ground conditions and alternative construction methods, and also to allow for powers granted under the DCO such as PROW diversions and stopping up of highways.

2.6.3 As a result of the need for flexibility, certain aspects of this ES, and therefore the EIA, are based on the application of maximum and, where relevant, minimum design and construction method parameters. These include the tunnelling and stabilisation methods, the elevation of the dams and excess spoil mounds, the location of the pumping station, the horizontal and vertical alignment of the penstock, and the internal configuration of the power station.

2.6.4 As a result, it is necessary for the technical assessments to assess an ‘envelope’ within which the works will take place. To remain in accordance

with the EIA Regulations it will be essential that the parameters are as appropriately defined to ensure that the 'likely significant effects' are identified, rather than unrealistically amplified effects, which could be deemed to be unlikely. It is proposed to use maximum parameters, and where applicable and necessary, minimum parameters for the Development in each relevant technical assessment.

2.6.5 This approach has been established in case law and is the subject of a guidance note from the Planning Inspectorate (*Advice Note Nine: Rochdale Envelope, republished April 2012*). The main points are summarised below:

- The application should acknowledge the need for details of a project to evolve, within clearly defined parameters;
- The EIA should take account of the need for evolution within those parameters, and reflect the likely significance of such a flexible project in the ES;
- Within those defined parameters, the level of detail of the proposals must be such as to enable a proper assessment of the likely significant environmental effects and the identification of mitigation measures, if necessary considering a range of possibilities: 'the assessment may conclude that a particular effect may fall within a fairly wide range. In assessing the 'likely' effects, it is entirely consistent with the objectives of the Directive to adopt a 'worst case' approach. Such an approach will then feed through into the mitigation measures envisaged. It is important that these should be adequate to deal with the worst case, to optimise the effects of the development on the environment'; and
- It is for the decision maker, in granting consent, to impose conditions to ensure that the process of evolution keeps within the parameters applied for and assessed.

2.6.6 PINS Advice Note 9 states that "*The 'Rochdale Envelope' is an acknowledged way of dealing with an application comprising EIA development where details of a project have not been resolved at the time when the application is submitted*. " but moves on to say "*The challenge for the EIA will be to ensure that all the realistic and likely worst case variations*

of the project have been properly considered and clearly set out in the ES and as such that the likely significant impacts have been adequately assessed" and that "*The project should be described in such a way that a robust EIA can be undertaken"*.

2.6.7 This approach is referred to as a 'Rochdale Envelope' following the legal cases which established its precedent (R. v Rochdale MBC ex parte Milne (No. 1) and R. v Rochdale MBC ex parte Tew [1999] and R. v Rochdale MBC ex parte Milne (No. 2) [2000]).

2.6.8 The assumptions and parameters that affect each technical assessment will form the topic specific 'basis of the assessment'. For example, when considering the long term effects on landscape, the height and massing of the dam is an important factor, but for ecology it is the footprint of the works that has the greatest influence. This is outlined in further detail in Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives.

2.6.9 It is not proposed to apply a Rochdale Envelope approach to temporary land take during construction, as the overall Order Limits will incorporate temporary construction and equipment storage areas. Temporary and permanent replacement common land is not included within the Order Limits.

2.7 Guidance & Methodology

2.7.1 The EIA for the Development has been carried out in accordance with the latest Regulations, guidance and advice on good practice comprising:

- Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999;
- The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations);
- Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment, Screening and Scoping (PINS, Version 5, March 2015)
- Advice Note Nine: Rochdale Envelope (PINS, Version 2, April 2012);

- UK Government guidance provided at http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/environmental-impact-assessment/ ;and
- Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2004).

2.7.2 Consideration has also been given to the following legal instruments, policy documents and guidance, some of which are considered in detail in Chapter 5 Planning Context and each of the relevant topic chapters:

- Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (2011). This sets out national policy for energy infrastructure in the UK, in conjunction with relevant technology specific national policy statements.
- Planning Policy Wales (Edition 7, July 2014), particularly Chapters 6 - Conserving the Historic Environment, 4 - Planning for Sustainability and 12- Infrastructure and Services;
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5: Nature Conservation and Planning (2009), which lists those species protected by law, details how developments should be considerate of any sensitive ecological receptors and includes other important regulations which have to be followed, such as:
    - The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC; and
    - The Birds Directive 2009/147/EC;
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Renewable Energy (2005);
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 11: Noise (1997);
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and Flood Risk (2004);
- The Quarries Regulations 1999, which only authorise work to be carried out in quarries and any associated land if permits are obtained and conditions of the regulations are met, to ensure the health and safety of those working within the Development;

- The Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended in 2003 and 2010), in particular Part II, Chapter II, regarding the abstraction and impounding of water, where a licence will need to be held to comply with regulations;
- The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 updates the Reservoirs Act of 1975, and applies to all reservoirs that hold at least 10,000m^3 (formally 25,000m^3 under the Reservoirs Act 1975) of water above natural ground level. It requires that all undertakers with reservoirs over 10,000m^3 register their reservoirs and that all incidents at reservoirs are reported. Only those reservoirs assessed as high risk are subject to full regulation; and
- Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1: Aggregates (including secondary aggregates e.g. slate waste) which concerns the use of mineral resources, avoiding significant harm to the environment or local amenities and the need to protect resources.

2.8 Consultation

2.8.1 This Final ES (October 2015) provides the full results of the technical studies. It has been amended from the Draft ES (dated February 2015) prior to submission of the DCO application to reflect feedback from the consultation exercise and the SoS' Scoping Opinion.

2.8.2 This section outlines the consultation, both regulatory and with the public, that has been undertaken during this EIA.

Scoping

2.8.3 As outlined in paragraph 2.3.9, SPH contacted the consultees listed at paragraph 2.3.6 above on 9th December 2014 to inform them that a formal scoping opinion would now be requested through PINS, although comments had already been received from Snowdonia National Park Authority, the Welsh Government, Gwynedd Council Local Biodiversity Officer and NRW (for information purposes). The comments received prior to 9th December 2014 are summarised in Table 2-5:

Table 2-5 Scoping Letter Responses	
Consultee	**Summary response**
Snowdonia National Park Authority, 19th November 2014	Stated that waste disposal and location of construction compounds have caused concern in the past for major projects in the national park. Agree that the chapter headings proposed cover all topics required State that further detail on procedure may be helpful within the planning policy chapter. Agrees with the conclusion that the proposed 99.9MW Development is an NSIP.
Welsh Government Highways, 10th December 2014	Advises that Welsh Government Highways will need to know about abnormal loads and that they may require a Traffic Management Plan.
NRW, 16th December 2014	Confirms that the scope of the ES, subject to any significant deviation is acceptable but recommends that a review is undertaken in light of the new generating capacity. Recommends detail and liaison on Reservoirs Act, including the requirements of the Reservoirs Act on the breach analysis. Recommends a hydrological / water users report and that a survey is undertaken of watercourses in relation to their potential diversion. A private water supply survey is recommended. Consultation with the County Ecologist was recommended.
Gwynedd Council Biodiversity Officer, 18th December 2014	Comments that there was little difference between the approved scheme granted planning permission under the T&CPA in February 2014 and the Development proposed under the Act, and as set out in the scoping letter. The Council therefore had no major concerns and did not consider that any further surveys were required. The Council advised that the planning conditions attached to the T&CPA decision notice remain relevant and should form the basis of the DCO requirements. Requirement to assess the effects on the Eryri and Glynllifon Special Area of Conservation as well as the Afon Gwyrfai and Llyn Cwellyn Special Area of Conservation.

2.8.4 A Scoping Report was then submitted to PINS formally. The subsequent Scoping Opinion is contained within Volume 3, Appendix 2.4 with the principal comments summarised in Table 2-6 below.

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
Overall Development	Scoped in	Environmental effects of all wastes to be processed and removed to be addressed.	Indicative details are included in the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) included in Appendix 16.1 and will be controlled through the Waste Management Plan (WMP).
	Scoped in	Description of any utilities infrastructure present on site.	Utilities report is included in Appendix 8.7
	Scoped in	Alternatives to development should be considered.	Alternatives to the Development have been described within Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives
	Scoped in	A construction programme should be included within the ES.	A construction programme is included within Chapter 4 and considered within assessments where necessary.
	Scoped in	A description of the operational processes and maintenance requirements of the Development should be included.	Further detail of the operational processes and maintenance requirements are now included in Chapter 4 Project Description.
	N/A	Should include details of whether a decommissioning plan is required.	Noted. We expect this to be made a Requirement of the DCO.
	Scoped in	Parameters of the Development and construction methods should be defined where possible.	Design parameters are defined in Chapter 4 Project Description and Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVIA)	N/A`	The ES should confirm if decommissioning landscape and visual impact will be included.	It is anticipated that a Decommissioning Plan will be made a Requirement of the DCO. The detail that it will be contain will be agreed with Gwynedd Council and NRW.
	Scoped in	The LVIA needs to take into account updates in guidance (GLVIA 3).	Chapter 6 Landscape Character and Visual Amenity will be updated to follow GLVIA 3 guidance.
Ecology	Scoped in	The SoS does not consider aerial photography alone adequate to update the Phase 1 surveys for all areas within the Order Limits.	Phase I Survey has been undertaken for those areas of the Order Limits which need to be updated and are reported in.
	Scoped in	Reinstatement plans should be outlined in a Landscape and Ecology Master Plan.	This information to is included within the Landscape and Reinstatement Plan in the CoCP (see Appendix 16.1).
	Scoped in	Impacts on all protected species should be covered, including fish and breeding birds.	Fish surveys have been undertaken in Q1 and Q6 and the results are included as part of the DCO submission. An updated breeding bird survey has been undertaken and the results assessed in Chapter 7 Ecology. The results of the breeding bird surveys can be found in Appendix 7.11, Volume 3.
	Scoped in	Operational lighting impact on bats	This is assessed within Chapter 7 Ecology

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
		should be assessed.	
	Scoped in	Detailed fish, invertebrate and plant surveys should be undertaken in Q6 to assess the transfer of water into Llyn Padarn. Additionally, surveys for floating water plantain at the discharge point should be undertaken.	Detailed fish, invertebrate and floating water plantain surveys have been undertaken and the results are included in Chapter 7 Ecology, Appendix 7.5.
Geology and Soils	Scoped out	The ES should confirm if operational ground contamination issues are to be considered.	It is unlikely that ground contamination will be an operational issue due to the Development being subject to more detailed site investigation, remediation works required during construction and lining of the reservoirs
	Scoped in	A radiological survey should be considered where ordnance may be suspected.	A report of potential for ordnance is included within Appendix 8.5 and 8.6
Water Resources	Scoped in	Land and water access arrangements to abstraction / discharge points are to be described.	Details are included in Chapter 9 Water Resources and Chapter 4 Project Description.
	Scoped in	The SoS recommends that all 15 private water receptors are consulted about the proposals.	All private water receptors have been contacted and additional private water supplies identified and users contacted. This is contained within Chapter 9 Water Resources and Appendix 9.2

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
			and 9.5
	Scoped in	The applicant is encouraged to provide results of water sampling within the ES.	As agreed with NRW in meeting dated 30th March 2015, a suite of 12 water samples is to be undertaken and the available results are included within Chapter 9 Water Resources and Appendix 9.4. This is in addition to previous water sampling which was undertaken for the 2012 ES.
Flood Risk	Scoped in	The FRA should reference the impact of sudden releases to Llyn Padarn when water levels are high.	Assessment of likely scenarios where discharge or scouring from the quarries may be required is included in Chapter 9 Water Resources and Chapter 10 Flood Risk of the ES.
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Scoped in	Reports and assessments should be reviewed and updated if necessary in line with any updates to guidance.	Reports have been reviewed and updated as required including the ASIDOHL, Appendix 6.1
Traffic and Transport	Scoped in	A description of the proposed access routes and site entrances should be included.	A description of the proposed access routes and site entrances is included within Chapter 12 Traffic and Transport.
	Scoped in	Decommissioning effects on highways and transportation should not be excluded from the ES.	Decommissioning effects are assessed in Chapter 12 Traffic and Transport

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
	Scoped in	Justification of why further traffic surveys are not needed should be included.	An update on flow data has been included within Chapter 12 Traffic and Transport.
	Scoped in	Road safety accident data should be included within the ES.	Updated road safety accident data has been included within Chapter 12, Traffic and Transport.
Noise	Scoped in	If no further noise monitoring surveys are to be carried out then justification will need to be provided in the ES.	Further noise monitoring surveys have been carried out as agreed with the GC EHO and details are included within Chapter 13 Noise & Vibration and Appendix 13.1.
	Scoped in	All potential methods of construction (e.g blasting and drilling) will need to be assessed.	Details of methods of construction that have been assessed within this EIA are included in Chapter 4 Project Description and Chapter 3 Design Evolution & Alternatives.
Socio-Economics	Scoped in	Full assessment on affected Public Rights of Way (PRoW) should be included within the ES.	This is included within Chapter 15 Socio-Economics.
Environmental Management	Scoped in	It is advised that an outline Construction Environmental Management Plan is included.	A Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) has been provided in Appendix 16.1 of the ES.
	Scoped in	Waste disposal during construction will need to be considered and should this need to be removed from site, this needs	An outline Waste Management Plan has been included within the CoCP (Appendix 16.1) and details of waste generated onsite included

Table 2-6 Summary of Secretary of State (SoS) Scoping Opinion			
Technical Discipline	**Scoped in / Scoped out following SoS Scoping Opinion**	**SoS Comments**	**Applicant comments**
		to be included in the Traffic Management Plan.	within Chapter 16 Environmental Management.
Cumulative Effects	Scoped in	Evidence of agreement with the relevant planning authority on the scope of cumulative assessment, especially regarding the proposed Wylfa Nuclear Power Station.	Gwynedd Council has advised on scope of cumulative assessment and inter-project effects are assessed with Caernarfon and Bontnewydd bypass and the grid connection. Socio-Economic and Traffic inter-project effects have been assessed with Wylfa Newydd. A meeting was held with Horizon Nuclear Power in March 2015 and details are included in Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects including their comments on the draft chapter.
	Scoped in	The SoS expects to see other works associated with the project (e.g. grid connection works) to be included within the cumulative assessment.	Grid connection works are included within Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects as a high level assessment and on the information contained with the grid connection offer available at the time of writing.

Preliminary Environmental Information Report, S42 and S47 Consultation

Previous Consultation

2.8.5 As part of the T&CPA application for the approved scheme, QBC (as the applicants for the T&CPA application) consulted with members of the public who were resident in the area. The consultation process included two public exhibitions (with advance leaflets sent out to Llanberis, Deiniolen, Dinorwig, Waunfawr, Cwm y Glo, Fachwen, Brynrefail and Penisar'waun) and local newspaper adverts being placed two weeks prior to the public exhibitions. Posters were also placed in local shops, hotels and on local community boards. In addition, a project website went online one month prior to the public exhibitions.

2.8.6 The public exhibitions were held on the 29th and 30th June 2012 in Llanberis and included visualisations of the T&CPA application proposals from key viewpoints and information leaflets describing the scheme. Members of QBC and the technical team were also in attendance to answer any queries from the public. 140 people attended these exhibitions. QBC also provided presentations at a meeting for the Glyn Rhonwy Working Group (on 14th June 2012) and the Waunfawr Community Council (on the 30th July 2012).

2.8.7 Questionnaires were also sent out to all those offering accommodation within a 12km radius of the site (including hotels, caravan parks, Bed & Breakfast (B&B) services etc.) requesting details on the type and seasonal availability of accommodation. Comments were invited back through postal copies or through the website. This survey was designed to determine the mix of businesses and tourism and the seasonal booking pattern so the effects of the Development on local tourism could be assessed.

2.8.8 QBC also sent out questionnaires to identified households and farms listed as having private water supplies within 1km of the approved scheme. This was part of the 2012 water resources assessment.

DCO Consultation

2.8.9 As a mandatory requirement of the Planning Act 2008 and in line with the published Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), SPH undertook two public exhibitions – the first on the 27th February 2015 in Caeathro and the second on the 28th February 2015 in Llanberis. The approach to consultation set out in the SoCC had been agreed with Gwynedd Council prior to publication. Details of the consultation events are shown in Table 2-7 below.

Table 2-7 Public Exhibitions

Date	Time	Venue
Friday 27th February 2015	2pm to 8pm	Canolfon Y Capel, Caeathro, LL55 2SS
Saturday 28th February 2015	10am to 7pm	The Royal Victoria Hotel, Llanberis, LL55 4TY

2.8.10 Over 200 people attended over the two days.

2.8.11 Copies of the Draft ES (dated February 2015) were made available (as PEI) for viewing at the public exhibitions and also at five other inspection points at the locations shown in Table 2-8.

Table 2-8 Deposit Locations of PEI

Location	Address	Opening Times
Llyfrgell Llanberis Library	Ffordd Capel Coch, Llanberis, LL55 4SH	Tuesday 1400-1800, Thursday 1000-1200 and 1300-1700, Friday 1400-1800.
Gwynedd Council Headquarters	Castle Street, Caernarfon, LL55 1SE	Monday –Friday: 0840-1700
Waunfawr Community Hall	Canolfan Waunfawr Community Centre, Waunfawr, LL55 4YY	Opening times vary.
Waunfawr Surgery	Liverpool House, Waunfawr, LL55 4AG	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 0800-1830
Deiniolen Library	Ty Elidir, High Street, Deiniolen, LL55 3HR	Monday 1500-1800, Wednesday 1400-1700, Friday 1000-1200.

2.8.12 The private water supplies consultation was also repeated due to the increase in Order Limits. The results form parts of the 2015 water resources assessment and are contained within Appendix 9.5.

2.8.13 Further details of the statutory consultation exercise that was undertaken in connection with the Development are provided in the published SoCC. A full account of the consultation undertaken by and on behalf of SPH is presented in the Consultation Report (Document 5.01) submitted as part of the DCO application. Over 640 individual items of feedback from 639 unique correspondents were received as part of the s47 consultation.

2.8.14 A summary of the s42 consultation responses can be found in Table 2-9 for each consultee:

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
Gwynedd Council (GC)	*LVIA* Should no fundamental changes be made to the above ground features of the Development to that assessed within the approved scheme then GC consider conditions issued in relation to the T&CPA application to be relevant to safeguard visual impact.	Updated photomontage on VP1, VP2 and VP12 have been included to account for scheme changes.
	Transportation GC consider that current details contained within the Draft ES (referring to highway matters are acceptable in principle but will need to be secured formally through such agreements as an extraordinary traffic agreement under s278.	No further comment. However, updates to traffic counts and accident data sets have been carried out and included.
	Noise The methods set out in the Draft ES are considered adequate and appropriate.	Further noise monitoring surveys have been carried out as agreed with the GC EHO and details are included within Chapter 13 Noise. Baseline has been updated to include Caravan Park by Q6 as a receptor.
	Air Quality The methods set out in the Draft ES are considered adequate and appropriate.	Baseline has been updated to include Caravan Park by Q6 as a receptor.
	Ecology GC are satisfied with the No Significant Effects report, but consider that cumulative effects of the proposed Caernarfon and Bontnewydd bypass should now be considered. Also any additional land to be included within the Order Limits should be	Cumulative effects of the proposed Caernarfon and Bontnewydd bypass have been included as part of the cumulative assessment in Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects.

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
	subject to further survey.	
	Ornithology GC suggest that breeding locations of peregrine falcons should be assessed annually and also an assessment should be undertaken on whether yellowhammers are present and could be affected by the Development.	A breeding bird survey has been undertaken and the results are included in Chapter 7 Ecology and Appendix 7.11.
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	*Water Resources* NRW confirm that applications have been received for the necessary abstraction and impoundment licences.	No further comment.
	Flood Risk Works will be subject to the requirements of the Reservoirs Act 1975, A meeting with NRW's Reservoirs Team has been proposed. Discharges from Q1 into the Nant y Betws may be subject to a consent or permit. Discharges from Q1 and Q6 must not increase flood risk within the catchment. NRW and Welsh Water will need to be consulted at the detailed design stage with regards to a formal drainage strategy.	A meeting with NRW was held on the 30th March 2015 to discuss NRW comments provided in response to scoping and s42 consultation. NRW confirmed that discharges to Nant y Betws will be subject to a licence. Details of the Flood Consequences Assessment are included within Chapter 10 Flood Risk.
	Ground Contamination NRW disagree that there is no need for the preparation of full remediation strategies to manage areas of ground contamination as this will be dependent on the subject of ground investigation	As agreed with NRW, should hazardous waste need to be removed from site it will be taken to a licensed hazardous waste disposal An indicative Silt Management Plan and a

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
	works. The ES should be amended accordingly. A Silt Management Plan should be included within the Water Management Plan and a Material Management Plan may need to be incorporated.	Materials Management Plan have been included within Appendix 16.1, CoCP. However, they are to be finalised as part of the DCO Requirement.
	Protected Species The entire area within the Order Limits should be subject to further survey.	Phase I Survey will be undertaken for those areas of Order Limits which need to be updated at request of Secretary of State.
	Protected Sites Discharge of sediment or potentially contaminated water will require a permit. The applicant needs to consider temperature difference in discharged water.	Discharges into Llyn Padarn or Nant y Betws will be subject to the conditions of a licence, to be issued by NRW.
	Fisheries NRW do not agree with the conclusion in the No Significant Effects Report that there will be no potential effects on the Afon Gwyrfai a Llyn Cwellyn SAC, but believes these may be managed through suitable mitigation measures.	No Significant Effect Report (NSER) / Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) has been amended to reflect NRW concerns. Clarification of mitigation measures is provided within the HRA.
	LVIA NRW request clarification on permanent security fencing and lighting. NRW note that up to date guidance (GLVIA 3) should be referred to.	Operational fencing around Q1 will be post and wire stock fencing whilst around Q6 will be in accordance with what is currently present. Chapter 7 Landscape Character and Visual Amenity will be updated with GLVIA 3

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
		Guidance.
Welsh Government (CADW)	*Transport* CADW requested details of abnormal loads and the routes these will take to site, in addition to a draft Traffic Management Plan.	A Construction Traffic Management Plan is included in Appendix 16.1 CoCP of the final ES and the details of abnormal loads and the routes to site included within Chapter 12 Traffic & Transportation.
	Conservation / Nature CADW requests that the ecological advice of NRW is given due regard.	Applicant notes this and has sought advice from NRW where necessary.
	Heritage CADW confirm that the ES should follow the agreed methodology.	No further comment.
The Coal Authority	As the Development lies outside of the defined coalfield, The Coal Authority has no comments or observations to make on this proposal.	No further comment
Public Health England	With regards to the proposed electrical connection, the ES should cover the potential health impacts associated with electric and magnetic effects produced by the substation and connecting cables and lines.	The substation is located away from any residential properties and therefore is unlikely to give rise to any significant effects.
Cymdeithas Eryri the Snowdonia Society	Require clarification on grid connection options.	The electrical connection will form a separate application but is assessed cumulatively in Chapter 17 Cumulative Effects.

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
National Grid	Require consideration of their existing assets (overhead line and underground cables) which are both in close proximity to the proposed Order Limits.	A cumulative assessment has been undertaken of the underground electrical connection, as per the information gained from the SP Manweb grid connection offer (available at the time of submission).
Powys Teaching Health Board	Concurs with the comments from Public Health England but also require consideration of noise and vibration during the construction and operational phases.	Noise and vibration are assessed within Chapter 13 Noise & Vibration.
Wales & West Utilities	No apparatus in the area of enquiry, however gas pipes owned by other gas transporters (GT's) and privately owned may be present and information should be obtained from owners. Plans issued with WWU responses are only valid for 28 days of issues- updated plans should be requested before site work commences outside this period.	Utilities Report is included in Appendix 8.7
Health and Safety Executive	Require consideration on whether hazardous substances will need to be stored. Health and safety legislation must be satisfied in regards to the connection to electrical power distribution systems.	Construction methodologies devised by the Principal Contractor will be subject to approval by relevant authorities prior to the commencement of works. Regard to hazardous substances has been given within Appendix 16.1 CoCP. The grid connection will be a separate application.
Isle of Anglesey County	The Non-Technical Summary refers to Wylfa C, whereas the correct name of the development is Wylfa Newydd Notes that a drilling and blasting mechanism known as New	Comments noted. An Austrian Tunnel Method is used for a soft rock excavation technique whereas the geology here is not suitable.

Table 2-9 Summary of s42 Responses		
Consultee	**Consultee comments**	**Applicant comments**
Council	Austrian Tunnel Method should be used instead of a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM), which is only suitable for soft rock.	Either drill and blast or Tunnel Boring Machine will be used.

2.8.15 Previous consultation has been undertaken, as part of the approved scheme, with organisations and consultees who have an interest in features or elements of the local environment which may be affected by the Development.

2.8.16 These consultees have been consulted as required under s42 of the Act, as detailed in Chapter 1 Introduction, and details of consultation undertaken to date specific to each technical discipline is provided in the relevant section of each technical chapter in this ES. Further detail is provided in the Consultation Report (Document 5.01) and its associated summary (Document 5.01.1).

2.8.17 Table 2-10 outlines the specific consultation meetings held with both Gwynedd Council and NRW and other interested parties:

Table 2-10 Record of Meetings

Date	Attended by	Issues discussed
15th October 2014	Gwynedd Council	Intention to apply for DCO
1st December 2014	Gwynedd Council & Cadw	DCO workshop including discussions about the changes in red line boundary
2nd December 2014	Gwynedd Council, NRW, PINS	PINS site visit plus follow up meeting with GC and NRW regarding introduction to the project and DCO process. Minutes taken.
22nd January 2015	NRW	To discuss SI works and HRA Screening
9th March 2015	PINS	To discuss progress on the DCO
26th March 2015	Horizon Nuclear Power	To discuss cumulative effects
26th March to 16th July	NRW, GC & Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	Informal meetings during preliminary GI works.
30th March 2015	NRW & Gwynedd Council	To discuss s42 responses from Gwynedd Council and NRW. NRW provided a formal response on the agenda and both parties also provided comments on the UXO report. Minutes taken.
15th May 2015	PINS	To discuss progress on the project and draft DCO documentation

Table 2-10 Record of Meetings		
Date	**Attended by**	**Issues discussed**
15th July 2015	NRW and Gwynedd Council	To discuss results of the breeding bird and aquatic ecology surveys, UXO and amends to project description. Minutes taken.
16th September 2015	PINS	To discuss progress on the project and draft DCO documentation

2.8.18 Minutes of the NRW and GC meetings held on the 2nd December 2014, 30th March 2015 and 15th July 2015 are available in Volume 3, Appendix 2.6.

2.8.19 Any correspondence from GC and NRW received in response to or post these meetings are provided in Volume 3, Appendix 2.7 and Volume 3, Appendix 2.8 respectively.

2.8.20 Additional consultation has also been undertaken with the NRW Reservoirs team. They have acknowledged that the Development will be subject to detailed design and that the Applicant intends to maintain regular liaison with them on Reservoir Act matters. The Applicant confirmed that a Panel Engineer has been involved with the design of the Development to date but that formal notification under the Act would be required 30 days prior to the commencement of the construction phase.

2.8.21 Consultation has also been undertaken with the Minerals Planning Department of Gwynedd Council regarding the reuse of slate and also the potential to make any waste wood or removed foliage available to the local community for biomass or fire wood.

2.8.22 Minutes of the meetings held with PINS are available on their website http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/glyn-rhonwy-pumped-storage/?ipcsection=advice (accessed 22nd September 2015).

2.8.23 Where necessary, liaison with these identified consultees will continue beyond submission of the DCO application through detailed design and construction. .

2.9 References

Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) *Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*

The Quarries Regulations 1999

The Water Resources Act 1991

Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)(2004) Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment

Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations (1999) (as amended)

Welsh Assembly Government (2004) Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1: Aggregates

Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Planning Policy Wales (4th Edition)

Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5: Nature and Conservation

Welsh Assembly Government (2005) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Renewable Energy

Welsh Assembly Government (1997) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 11: Noise

Welsh Assembly Government (2004) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and Flood Risk

The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations);

Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment, Screening and Scoping (PINS, Version 5, July 2015)

Advice Note Nine: Rochdale Envelope (PINS, Version 2, April 2012);

Preparation of Environmental Statements for Planning Projects that Require Environmental Impact Assessment, A Good Practice Guide, (Department of the Environment, 1995); and

Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2004).

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 7, July 2014), particularly Chapters 6 - Conserving the Historic Environment, 4 - Planning for Sustainability and 12- Infrastructure and Services;

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010