

APPENDIX 1: THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY IN THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The tables below set out the statutory stages which relate to Local Authorities in the planning process for major infrastructure projects. Relevant non-statutory stages which affect Local Authorities have also been included and are show in italics.

A1. PRE-APPLICATION STAGE		
Pre-application Stage	Activity	Statutory timescale
EIA scoping opinion consultation (EIA Regs)	Where the developer requests an EIA scoping opinion from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), the Inspectorate will consult with Local Authorities and other consultation bodies prior to issuing their opinion.	Minimum of 28 days
Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) consultation (Section 47)	Prior to undertaking formal consultation with the local community, the developer is required to prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), setting out how they are going to carry out their consultation. The Local Authority will be invited to comment on the provisions of the draft SoCC before it is published.	28 days
Statutory consultation (Section 42)	Developer is required to formally consult prescribed consultees at pre-application stage (this includes Local Authorities and relevant Town and Community Councils).	Minimum of 28 days
Community Consultation (Section 47)	The developer is required to engage with the local community in accordance with the proposals set out in the SoCC	No statutory timescale
Publicity (Section 48)	The developer is required to advertise the project in national and local newspapers at specified stages in the process	No statutory timescale
<i>Pre-submission discussions</i>	<i>Best practice recommends developers enter into discussions with the Local Authority prior to submitting their application. This may include commenting on the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) provisions, requirements and planning obligations and agreeing a Statement of Common Ground.</i>	<i>No statutory timescale</i>

A2. SUBMISSION / ACCEPTANCE STAGE		
Submission / Acceptance Stage	Activity	Statutory timescale
Comment on the adequacy of community consultation (Section 55)	The Planning Inspectorate has 28 days to decide whether or not to accept an application. During this time the Local Authority will be invited to comment on the adequacy of the consultation carried out by the applicant.	Less than 28 days (2 weeks is most likely)

A3. PRE-EXAMINATION STAGE		
Pre-examination Stage	Activity	Statutory timescale
Registration of Interest / Initial Representation (Section 56 & 57)	Once an application is accepted, the developer must give notice of the application to prescribed consultees, Local Authorities and any other person who is within one of more of the categories set out in Section 57. The developer must also publicise the application in the prescribed manner and allow a minimum of 28 days for interested parties to register their interest. The deadline for expressions of interest to be clearly stated. As a prescribed consultee, Local Authorities are automatically an 'interested party'. The Planning Inspectorate encourage prescribed consultees to make a representation at this stage to set out their initial views on the application.	Approx. 3 month Pre-application stage. Minimum 28 days must be given for interested parties to register their interest
Local Impact Report (Section 60)	The Local Authority will be invited to submit a Local Impact Report. The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to any Local Impact Report during the examination of an application for development consent.	Timescale for submission of LIR will be set by Planning Inspectorate
<i>Agree a Statement of Common Ground</i>	<i>The developer may approach the Local Authority to negotiate and agree a Statement of Common Ground and seek to agree heads of terms for any necessary legal agreements (Section 174 of the 2008 Act amends section 106 of the TCPA 1990 to enable legal agreements to be entered into)</i>	<i>No statutory time limit</i>

A4. EXAMINATION STAGE		
Examination	Activity	Statutory timescale

Stage		
Preliminary Meeting (Section 88)	The Local Authority will be invited to attend a preliminary meeting.	6 month Examination stage
Submit Written Representation (Section 90)	The Local Authority will be invited to submit written representations..	Timescale for written reps will be set by Planning Inspectorate
Attend / speak at Hearing (Section 91 – 96)	The Local Authority will be invited to attend Hearing sessions and make oral representations where necessary.	Timescale for oral reps will be set by Planning Inspectorate

A5. DECISION STAGE		
Decision Stage	Activity	Statutory timescale
Decision Statement (Section 103-117)	The Decision make must prepare a statement of its reasons for deciding to grant of refuse development consent. A copy of the statement should be provided to prescribed consultees and interested parties.	Planning Inspectorate has 3 months to make Decision / Recommendation Secretary of State will have an additional 3 months
Legal Challenge (Section 118)	A court may entertain proceeding for questioning an order granted development consent only if a) The proceedings are brought by a claim for judicial review and b) The claim form is filed during the period of 6 weeks	6 weeks

A6. POST DECISION STAGE		
Post- decision Stage	Activity	Statutory timescale

Post consent monitoring and enforcement (Section 160-173)	Part 8 of the 2008 Act sets out the enforcement powers relating to development consent orders and confers an enforcement function on the local planning authority.	As defined in the DCO
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Glossary of abbreviations:

DCO = Development Consent Order

EIA = Environmental Impact Assessment

EIA Regs = Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009

LIR = Local Impact Report

SoCC = Statement of Community Consultation

TCPA 1990 = Town and County Planning Act 1990

2008 Act = Planning Act 2008

APPENDIX 2: MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS CONTACT INFORMATION

Gwynt y Mor offshore windfarm	
Post	Gwynt y Mor Offshore Wind Farm, RWE Npower Renewables Ltd, Port of Mostyn, Coast Road, Mostyn, Flintshire, CH8 9HE
Tel	0845 071 4474
Email	gwyntymor@rwe.com
Web	http://www.rwe.com/web/cms/en/306614/rwe-innogy/sites/wind-offshore/under-construction/gwynt-y-mr/summary/

Burbo Bank Extension offshore windfarm	
Post	DONG Energy Burbo Bank Extension (UK) Ltd, 33 Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7HY
Tel	0207 811 5235 / 0207 811 5200
Email	burbobankextension@dongenergy.co.uk
Web	http://www.dongenergy.com/burbobankextension/Pages/index.aspx

Irish Sea Zone offshore windfarms	
Post	Centrica plc, Millstream, Maidenhead Road, WindsorBerkshire, SL4 5GD
Tel	01753 494 000
Email	ceri@centrica.com
Web	http://www.centrica.com/index.asp?pageid=923&project=project8&projectstatus=future

Clocaenog Forest windfarm	
Post	Clocaenog Forest consultation, RWE npower renewables, Unit 22, Baglan Bay Innovation Centre, Baglan Energy Park, Central Avenue, Port Talbot, SA12 7AX
Tel	01639 816180
Email	clocaenog@npower-renewables.com
Web	http://www.rwe.com/web/cms/en/306196/rwe-innogy/sites/wind-onshore/united-kingdom/in-development/the-proposal/

Mynydd Mynyllod windfarm	
Post	Scottish Power Renewables, 1 Atlantic Quay, 4th Floor, Glasgow, G2 8JB
Tel	0141 614 0450

Email	mynydd@scottishpower.com
Web	http://www.mynyddmynylodwindfarm.com/

North Wales wind farm Connections	
Post	North Wales wind farm connections project manager, Scottish Power Energy Networks, 2 Prenton Way, Prenton, Merseyside, CH43 3ET
Tel	No dedicated telephone number set up to date
Email	No dedicated email set up to date
Web	http://www.sppowersystems.co.uk/publicinformation/performance.asp (details will be available on this webpage in due course)

National Grid North Wales grid connection	
Post	Freepost National Grid, NW Connection
Tel	0800 990 3567
Email	nationalgrid@northwalesconnection.com
Web	http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/MajorProjects/NorthWalesConnection/