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COMMUNITY UPDATE

NEWS OF HORIZON'S PLANS FOR NEW NUCLEAR POWER AT OLDBURY

The planning process and how to get involved

Now that 2010 is here, we are moving into the next stage of developing our proposals to bring new nuclear power to Oldbury. Our regular newsletter aims to keep you up to date and informed about important milestones along the way.

Planning and Consents Manager Tim Proudler (pictured right) said: "Last year we initiated a number of informal engagement activities and also had the opportunity to meet many local residents, and we're very grateful for all the feedback we've had.

"These activities form part of our ongoing communication process which has included public exhibitions, a drop-in surgery, newsletters, a web site with contact email address and a freephone information line. We will continue these activities as we move forward.

"And, while we would always engage regularly with the local community on any large project, the new planning regime includes a more formal requirement for 'pre-application consultation'



with local people. So, as more information becomes available, our normal engagement activities will be supplemented by more formal processes in which we will be seeking your input and feedback on our plans.

"We appreciate that the new planning regime will be unfamiliar to many, so we've developed a chart (see page 2) which sets out the different stages in the process and shows where individuals and local communities have the opportunity to have their say on our proposals.

"We hope this is helpful, but if you need further information you can contact Planning Aid (see back page for contact details) or our team via the normal communication channels."

WELCOME

TO OUR LATEST NEWSLETTER KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH OUR PLANS FOR OLDBURY.

Surgery and presentation to follow exhibitions

We were pleased that almost 500 people attended our exhibitions in November and December.

To keep you in touch with developments we have arranged a further surgery style meeting for Thursday 4th March at the Cossham Hall, Thornbury, from 3-6.30pm. This will be followed by a presentation at 7.30pm.

The feedback we received at our events is that many local people are keen to learn more about technical aspects of our project as well as the work we are carrying out to provide information for the design process.

Members of the Horizon development team will be on hand during the surgery to answer your questions.

Further information, including details on the presentation, will be posted on: www.eon-uk/oldbury and soon on the new Horizon Nuclear Power site: www.horizonnuclearpower.com



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Guide to the new planning regime
- Support from Planning Aid
- Dates for your diary
- How to get in touch

➤ There are three key parts to the new planning regime

Opportunities for you to have your say

There are three important points on which you can have your say as part of the new planning regime for projects like ours. They are:

1. NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS (NPSs)

The Government is currently consulting on six draft energy NPSs which set out its policy on energy infrastructure for England and Wales. These include an overarching NPS on Energy (EN-1) and one specific to new nuclear power stations (EN-6).

Ten locations, including Oldbury, are identified in the draft nuclear NPS as strategically suitable sites for new nuclear power stations. Anyone can respond to these consultations and full details can be found at: <https://www.energynpsconsultation.decc.gov.uk/>

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As part of its consultation on the draft nuclear NPS, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) is holding a three day exhibition in Thornbury between Thursday 4th and Saturday 6th February. Go to www.nuclear-nps-events.info for more details. The closing date for responses on the draft NPS is 22nd February 2010 and it is expected to be formally approved by Government later this year.

2. PRE-APPLICATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Horizon Nuclear Power's Oldbury team is developing a Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC). This sets out our commitment on how we will consult communities on our proposals for new nuclear power at Oldbury.

Ahead of any pre-application consultation, we are required to consult relevant local authorities on the SOCC before publishing it in the media and on our website, which we hope to do around Easter 2010.

Two rounds of consultation are likely: the first on preliminary designs, issues and options; the second on our preferred proposals. These consultations will also include environmental information which will form part of the

Environmental Statement – another key document which will accompany our planning application. We will then produce a Consultation Report on how community consultation was carried out, the responses received and, with relevant justification, how those responses influenced the development.

This report must be included as part of the application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), the new body responsible for granting or declining planning applications such as ours. We hope to carry out our first pre-application consultation on the project (which will include cooling tower designs) in summer 2010. A second stage of pre-application consultation is likely to begin around the end of this year or early 2011.

3. THE IPC EXAMINATION PHASE

Once a planning application has been submitted to the IPC there will be a period during which anyone can make their views known on it. Details of how and when to have a say will be well publicised by the IPC.

The IPC then sets the timetable for the examination process, which will include further opportunities for communities to get involved and have their say through written submissions and, where necessary, 'open floor' hearings.

A major element in the IPC's consideration of the planning application will be the NPSs.

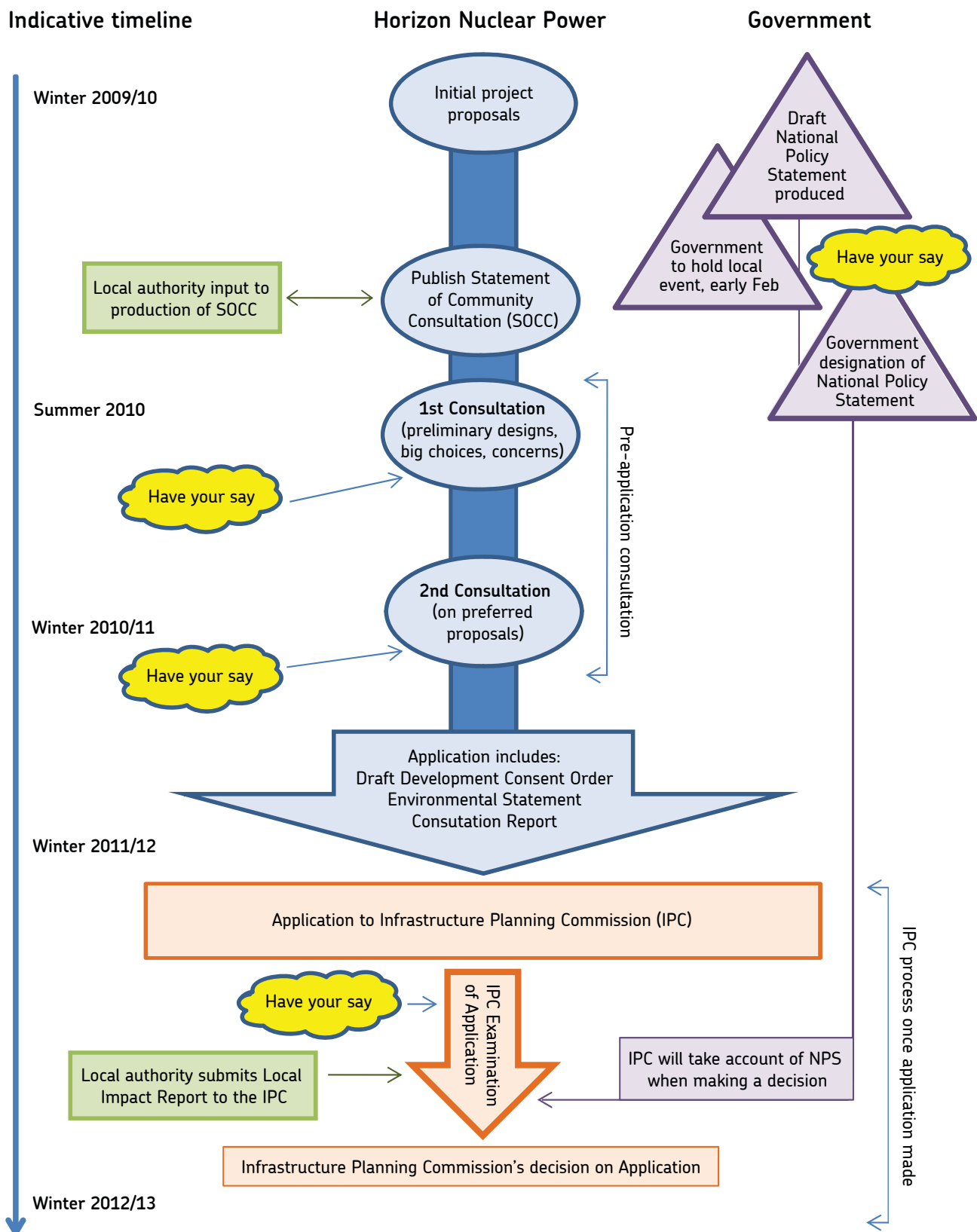
Other key elements include:

- The Consultation Report
- The Environmental Statement describing the project and including the findings of our environmental impact assessment
- The Local Impact Report (requested from and submitted by relevant local planning authorities to the IPC after a planning application has been received and accepted)

We expect to submit our planning application for Oldbury to the IPC in late 2011. It is anticipated that it will take around a year to decide on planning applications for a nuclear power station.

More information on the pre-application consultation process is available on the IPC's web site <http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/>

Development of new nuclear power at Oldbury: Indicative timeline and opportunities for community input



This diagram has been produced for information purposes, and is intended to provide a summary of some of the key aspects of the new planning and associated consultation processes.

Regional support from independent planning advice body

Planning Aid provides free, independent and professional planning advice and support to communities and individuals.



It complements the work of local planning authorities, but is wholly independent of them. Working to widen engagement in the process, it focuses on giving an equal voice to all those involved.

The organisation is hosting an event at Oldbury Memorial Hall on Wednesday 20th January at 6.30pm. Using a number of interactive techniques it will outline

the new planning system for nationally significant infrastructure projects and explain how communities can take part in consultations. Representatives from Horizon Nuclear Power have been invited by Planning Aid to attend and will provide an update on development of the scheme so far.

Planning Aid is looking at scheduling

further events in the Thornbury area, subject to local interest, for February. Due to the format of these events, places need to be reserved in advance.

For more information, or to express interest in attending future events, please contact Sue Webber at Planning Aid on 0117 377 9817 or email sue.webber@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk

Diary dates

THURSDAY 4TH TO SATURDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

Turnberries Community Centre, Bath Road, Thornbury BS35 2BB

Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC): Consultation on draft National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure

As part of the Government's consultation on the draft Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS), DECC is holding a three day exhibition, 9am - 7pm on Thursday and Friday, 9am - 4pm on Saturday.

SATURDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

10am at Turnberries Community Centre, Bath Road, Thornbury BS35 2BB

Public discussion. Advance registration for this is required. Go to www.nuclear-nps-events.info or ring 0845 0048 841 for more information.

MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

DECC's Energy NPS Consultation closes

The Government is currently consulting on six draft energy NPSs. These include an overarching NPS and one specific to new nuclear power stations. Oldbury is one of 10 locations identified in the draft nuclear NPS.

Anyone can respond to these consultations. Full details can be found at: www.energynpsconsultation.decc.gov.uk.

THURSDAY 4TH MARCH

Horizon Nuclear Power Public Surgery, 3pm-6.30pm, at Cossham Hall, Thornbury BS35 2BJ

Members of our team will be on hand at the second of our informal drop-in sessions. They will be able to answer any questions you may have on the development of the project and provide updates on ongoing studies.

THURSDAY 4TH MARCH

Horizon Nuclear Power Presentation, 7.30pm, Cossham Hall, Thornbury BS35 2BJ

The open surgery-style meeting will be followed at 7.30pm by a presentation on a key aspect of our proposed scheme. This will be followed by a 30 minute Q and A session.

Contact us

If you have any queries or issues you would like to raise with us, please call our usual freephone number **0800 130 3125**,

or email us at: oldburyenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com

Emails sent to the previous oldburyenquiries@eon-uk.com are still forwarded to the Oldbury team.

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