

Notes of a meeting between SPLG & SCDC at the Council Offices on 14th October 2013.

Present:

Subject: EDF Sizewell C Development.

SCDC: Ray Herring, Andy Smith, Andrew Nunn & Philip Ridley

SPLG: Jon Swallow, Malcolm Blakeney, Gordon Gilbert, David Burns, Tony Middleditch, Terry Hodgson

In general terms EDF have drawn back since the Stage One Consultation, including the withdrawal of funding for the planning process at SCDC. Hinckley is also on hold as EDF seeks a Chinese partner to build at both sites and negotiates an electricity strike price with the government. The strike price is economically essential for EDF and any partner to make a long term profit from their investment.

EDF have withdrawn substantial funding from SCDC which was assisting the planning process. Hinckley may become the EDF model transferred to Sizewell, despite different infrastructure and social needs, and negotiations are on hold whilst EDF seek a partner, likely to be China, and agree a strike price with the Government.

On specific issues identified at the meeting:

- 1) A need to provide traffic flow evidence to support the 4 villages' by-pass. SCDC suggested that the construction could be undertaken in planned stages over time with funding from several sources (EDF, SCC & EC).
- 2) Yoxford presents a difficult problem and SCDC suggested that a monitored traffic light system set for crucial times would provide a solution between A1120/B1122 and A12.
- 3) The emergency services need to plan for a road system that enables staff and residents to escape the Sizewell area in an emergency and allow easy access for rescue vehicles.
- 4) Worker accommodation: It would appear Hinckley have managed to place workers on 3 sites in Bridgewater which in turn will become legacy housing. However, current planning legislation rules this out for Sizewell. The example of the Olympics site in London gave encouragement that legislation could be changed. The proposed large Eastbridge site is considered untenable by the residents of Eastbridge and Theberton.
- 5) Storage of nuclear waste by Sizewell B and in future C is considered temporary and does not qualify for community benefit, unlike Drigg which is a permanent site. This begs a question as the deep underground storage facility is unlikely as yet to be identified, let alone built.
- 6) The design of Sizewell C should be of the highest standards to blend in gracefully with the local environment, which is an AONB.
- 7) Suffolk Coastal relies heavily on tourism so during the building period could well disrupt that vital income to the local economy. What might be the compensation from EDF?
- 8) The Planning Inspector for Sizewell C has agreed to attend a meeting with SPLG at Theberton Village Hall on 24th October at 2.00 pm. All welcome from SCDC.

An important outcome of the meeting was a desire, in fact a theme in all discussions, that SCDC and SPLG work together; to be stronger by operating together on the same page and to present a united front in dealing with EDF. To that end it was proposed by SCDC that they have more frequent joint meetings with SPLG, particularly as SPLG is the body in touch with grass roots opinion. Finally, SCDC want to plan another meeting for all interested councils and parties in late February 2014.