Update from EDF Energy on our revised application for consent for a new gas fired power station at Sutton Bridge.

EDF Energy is planning to amend its existing application to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) for consent to construct and operate a new natural gas fired power station on land adjacent to the existing Sutton Bridge power station. The new power station would be known as Sutton Bridge B.

The application was first submitted in December 2005 under section 36 of the 1989 Electricity Act. We wish to now make a number of changes to our proposals and EDF Energy therefore intends to update its application and to update the supporting information submitted to DECC.

We would therefore like to share information about the changes to our proposals and to re-consult with the local community.

This project update outlines the proposals and accompanying changes, as well as providing answers to some key questions. The re-consultation will run until Monday 14 October 2013. It is important to us that you have the opportunity to feed back your views before we submit the updated application. During this stage of re-consultation we will be holding a public information day which we encourage you to attend. Further information is on the back page of this leaflet, along with our contact details.
Who is EDF Energy?
EDF Energy is one of the UK’s largest energy companies and its largest producer of low-carbon electricity. A wholly-owned subsidiary of the EDF Group, one of Europe’s largest energy groups, we generate around one fifth of the UK’s electricity and employ about 15,000 people. We supply electricity and gas to around 5.5 million residential and business customers, making us the biggest supplier of electricity by volume.

What changes to your application are you proposing and why?
Since our original application in 2005, technology has moved forward. The changes that we are proposing are designed to take account of this and also a number of other developments.

The main proposed changes are:

• The use of more modern, higher efficiency and increased capacity gas turbines. This will increase the generating capacity of the proposed power station from 1,260 MW to up to 1,800 MW. Higher efficiency will also mean lower emissions per unit of electricity generated.

• Removing the capability of the plant to run on oil. We have decided that the proposed power station will no longer include the capability to run on oil. This has the advantage of enabling us to remove the on-site oil fuel storage tanks which had previously been proposed.

• Possible updating of cooling technology. Our original application was based upon the use of air cooling technology for the plant. We are now looking into the possibility of instead utilising higher efficiency ‘hybrid cooling’, using water from the River Nene. This currently remains subject to further studies to confirm feasibility and also approval by the relevant authorities, including the Environment Agency. If hybrid cooling cannot be used then we would revert to air cooling technology.

• The land area to be consented at the boundary with the existing Sutton Bridge power station is now slightly reduced compared to the original application.

What fuel would be used at Sutton Bridge B?
Sutton Bridge B would burn natural gas to generate electricity. This is the same fuel used by the existing Sutton Bridge power station, which has been in operation for a number of years. It is also the same fuel used in many homes for cooking and heating.

What would Sutton Bridge B look like?
At our public information day you will be able to see photomontages illustrating what Sutton Bridge B would look like from a number of locations.
The need for Sutton Bridge B

By 2020, over a third of existing power plants are expected to close. Whilst much of this will be replaced with low carbon forms of power generation it will still be necessary to have electricity provided by gas-fired power generation. Many low carbon sources of generation, such as renewables, are expected to run on an intermittent basis (e.g. they operate when there is wind). Therefore gas-fired generation, such as the proposed Sutton Bridge B, will play an important role in providing flexible generation to balance supply and demand.

How will the environmental impacts of the proposed power station be evaluated?

A comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out at the time of our original application in 2005. This EIA and supporting studies are now being updated to take account of the proposed changes and also changes in relevant legislation since 2005. The updated EIA will form the basis of a revised Environmental Statement to be submitted to DECC alongside our updated application.

What further consultation will take place?

As for our original proposal, we are consulting with local planning authorities, the Environment Agency, Natural England, Government (the Department of Energy and Climate Change) and other interested parties. EDF Energy is also re-consulting with the public on the proposals prior to submitting the updated application. A public information day is being held for the local community and general public (see reverse), and we welcome any feedback people may have.

As required by the section 36 planning process, after the submission of the updated application there will be the opportunity for interested parties to make comments to DECC who will decide whether consent will be granted for the project to go ahead. More information on this process is provided on DECC’s website: https://itportal.decc.gov.uk/EIP/pages/onshore.htm

What is the timetable?

We currently expect to submit the updated application documentation to DECC before the end of 2013, following our re-consultation with the local community and organisations. The consultation will run until 14 October 2013.

As Sutton Bridge B is still at the planning stage, no decision has yet been taken by EDF Energy regarding the construction timetable. If consent is granted by DECC, the project would still be subject to an investment decision which would be made by EDF Energy at a later date. The duration of construction is estimated to be around three years.
How can I find out more and express my views?

We are very keen to share information about our proposals and to obtain feedback.

Please take the time to find out more and to share your views with us before 14 October 2013 in one of the following ways:

• Attend our public information day, where members of our project team will be on hand to answer questions and feedback questionnaires will be provided:

| Saturday 21 September | 11.00 – 15.00 at the Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge |

• Complete a feedback questionnaire and return it to us in the addressed envelope.
• Email us at SuttonBridgeBInformation@edfenergy.com
• Write to us at FREEPOST SBB CONSULTATION

If you have further questions concerning our proposals and are not able to attend the public information day, please telephone us on 0800 022 6154*

*This is a freephone number but please note that you may be charged if you are calling from a mobile phone.