Community Newsletter Special Edition



Sizewell C Planning Application APPROVED

Nearly ten years since the start of public consultation, the proposal for a new nuclear power station next to Sizewell B has been granted permission to be built by the UK Government.

This follows an intense period of examination of the application by the Planning Inspectorate. The outcome underlines that Sizewell C is an appropriate site for the building of a new nuclear power station: the right project in the right place at the right time.

Naturally we welcome this decision. We want to thank all the local residents, their representatives, businesses and organisations that have provided their feedback over the years. We have tried to incorporate changes to our plans which reflected those responses. Sometimes this meant options were proposed which disappointed some stakeholders. However, we have aimed to arrive at a project that keeps disruption to a minimum. We will continue to reduce the impacts of construction on local communities, while maximising the huge benefits Sizewell C will bring to Suffolk.

Sizewell C will deliver enough low carbon electricity for six million homes. It will create thousands of jobs, including 1,500 apprenticeships. We have signed agreements with all the Suffolk Further Education Colleges and we will invest in and provide opportunities for young people and jobseekers across the county. We acknowledge that this decision will not be welcomed by everyone. However, as we now enter a new phase for this important project, we will abide by our pledges to all in the community and we have included them in this special edition of the newsletter.

Over the page, we have summarised the next steps for the project. Our preparatory works and surveys will continue and later this summer we will distribute another newsletter with more details about the decision. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us if you would like more information.

Best wishes,

Julia Pyke, Director of Finance and Economic Regulation, Sizewell C.

Sizewell C

Community Pledges

When we submitted our application for a Development Consent Order to build and operate Sizewell C in 2020 we published the following pledges to the local community. We know we will be held to account and must meet the standards set out below.

Minimise disruption to local communities during the construction of Sizewell C.

Invest in local employment, education and skills. This includes an aim to enable 1,500 apprenticeships.

Support the growth of the local economy. This includes measures to support local firms in gaining work on the project.

Transport the majority of construction materials by rail and sea, significantly reducing the number of Sizewell C HGVs on local roads.

Respect the Suffolk Heritage Coast and minimise impact on RSPB Minsmere, National Trust Dunwich Heath and Leiston Abbey.

Return the temporary construction area to a standard befitting the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) following construction.

Remove the accommodation campus and caravan site, the park and ride sites, the rail extension of the Saxmundham to Leiston branch line and freight management facility following construction and restore the land.

Support the Suffolk coast tourism sector to offset impacts from construction through the provision of a Tourism Fund.

Provide a comprehensive 24/7 onsite occupational health service for workers, a healthcare contribution and a Public Services Contingency Fund.

Require all workers to sign a Worker Code of Conduct and enforce it – as we have done successfully at Hinkley Point C.

Enhance the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of local communities through the provision of a Community Fund.

What next?

- Government has indicated its support for Sizewell C and may consider investing in the project.
- Sizewell C has applied for a license to operate a Regulated Asset Base (RAB) financing model. OFGEM will determine this, and if granted the project will seek investors.
- Back in May 2020, we submitted three permit applications to operate Sizewell C to the Environment Agency. The Agency has now reached a proposed decision to grant the three permits and has launched its <u>public consultation</u> on the proposed decision, the draft permits and any supporting documents. This will run until late September.
- The building of the power station will not begin until financing is confirmed. This is expected in mid-2023. In the meantime there will be some preparatory work and ongoing archaeological and ecological surveys.
- Sizewell C will take 10-12 years to build. There will be forums where community representatives will present the views of their constituents on construction activity, and the Project Team will continue to work with parish councils, community associations and individual residents throughout.
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