



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

**to
COUNCIL
12 SEPTEMBER 2019**

BRADWELL POWER STATION WORKING GROUPS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 At its meeting of 6 June 2019, the Planning and Licensing Committee noted that the Bradwell Power Station Working Group, established in 1999, did not have a suitable Terms of Reference and membership to address either the care and maintenance period of Bradwell ‘A’, or to support the development process for Bradwell B. The Committee recommended that the remit and the membership of the group be reviewed and that this should be deferred to the Council. At its meeting of 27 June 2019, the Council resolved that the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Bradwell Power Station Working Group be reviewed. This report is submitted to report on the recommendations of the review.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) that Council dissolves the existing Bradwell Power Station Working Group;
- (ii) that Council establishes a new Bradwell ‘A’ Care and Maintenance Working Group, to support the Councils role in overseeing the care and maintenance period of Bradwell Power Station and that six Members are appointed to the Working Group by the Council;
- (iii) that Council establishes a new Bradwell ‘B’ Power Station Working Group to support and advise the Members appointed to the Joint Bradwell Member Board (JMBB);
- (iv) that it is recommended this Group includes the Four Members who are appointed to JMBB, with an additional 4 Members to be appointed by Council.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 An initial review of the needs for a Working Group to support the Care and Maintenance period for Bradwell A, and the Development Consent Order (DCO) process for Bradwell B, suggest that there is a need for two clear and separate working groups:

- Bradwell ‘A’ – Care and Maintenance Working Group

- Bradwell ‘B’ – Power Station Working Group
- 3.2 It is proposed that the existing Bradwell Power Station Working Group be dissolved and that two new stand-alone working groups are established, each with members appointed separately, and that each group also has its own Terms of Reference. This report sets out proposals for each group.
- 3.3 **Bradwell ‘A’ Care and Maintenance Working Group**
- 3.3.1 The existing Bradwell Power Station ceased operation in 2002, having been in use since 1962. Subsequently it was subject to a decommissioning process, culminating in it entering ‘Care and maintenance’ status, in 2018. The decommissioning process has seen the two existing reactors de-fuelled, decommissioned and covered in weatherproof cladding to create "safe stores" where waste will be kept for around 70 years to allow any radiation to decay naturally.
- 3.3.2 During the care and maintenance period there will be an ongoing need for Maldon District Council to continue to engage with Magnox and receive reports regarding the ongoing process.
- 3.3.3 It is proposed that a new Working Group be established to undertake this role and report back to the Council, and that six members are appointed to the Working Group by the Council.
- 3.4 **Bradwell ‘B’ Power Station Working Group**
- 3.4.1 Proposals for Bradwell B Power station are being developed by Bradwell Power Generation Company (BRB), which is a joint venture of EDF and CGN, with CGN as the lead partner. This is the same partnership that is delivering the power stations as at Hinkley Point and Sizewell C, although in this case CGN is lead partner for the first time.
- 3.4.2 The development of a new nuclear power station at Bradwell is considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), as such the planning approval mechanism for the development of the power station site requires a developer to submit a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate then makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether the DCO should be granted. The Secretary of State would then take a decision on whether to award a DCO.
- 3.4.3 As the Local Planning Authority, Maldon District Council (MDC) has a key role to play within the DCO process. Whilst not a decision-making body within this process, MDC has a role as a consultee in its own right, and also a role in ensuring the wider public consultation is undertaken appropriately by the developer. This will include responding to the developers Statement of Community Consultation, responding to developer consultation, developing a Local Impact Report and preparing Statements of common ground.
- 3.4.4 The Joint Bradwell Member Board (JMBB) will be the key forum for Council Members to engage with the DCO process. The Council has appointed the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning

and Licensing Committee to this Board. To enable those Members to represent a wider view of the Council, it is recommended that a Bradwell 'B' Power Station Working Group be formed. It is recommended that this Group includes the four Members who are appointed to JMBB, with an additional four Members to be appointed by the Council.

- 3.4.5 In addition to the Working Group and JMBB, it is expected that the Council will be asked to approve any significant responses within the DCO process.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The establishment of the new Working Groups will provide clear channels to support the Council to engage in the oversight of the care and maintenance period of the existing de-commissioned Bradwell 'A' Power Station, and to support the Council's role in the wider DCO process for the proposed new Bradwell 'B' Power Station.

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 The proposals will support the Place Theme, and the Prosperity Theme of the Maldon District Corporate Plan 2019 - 23.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The Working Groups will assist the Council in its role of ensuring that the public are effectively consulted regarding the potential development of Bradwell B Power Station.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** - None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – None.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Time from Officers to support the new working Groups.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers: None.

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