

Powys County Council Mid Wales Conjoined Public Inquiry  
Electricity Act 1989 (sections 36, 37, 62(3) & schedule 8) Town and Country  
Planning Act 1990 (section 90)

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UPDATED OUTLINE STATEMENT  
ADDENDUM 1

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1. In June 2013 Powys County Council (“the Council”) produced an updated outline statement concerning the above matters (document OBJ/002/OSOC/2).

1.2. In its statement at the opening of this Inquiry the Council undertook to keep that outline statement of case up to date, to enable all other parties to know as soon as possible what points will be pursued and where in light of emerging evidence and further work the Council do not propose to pursue a particular point.

1.3. This addendum updates Powys’ position in relation to the socio economic impacts from that set out in the June 2013 updated outline statement which otherwise remains current. Powys has already informally updated the Applicants on their position of its position as set out in this addendum.

**2. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

2.1. In the updated outline statement of case, the Council said in relation to each application the following in respect of socio-economic impacts:

*“In relation to socio-economic impacts, the Council are in the process of investigating socio-economic impacts and at the moment propose to call currently anticipates calling evidence on the impact of the proposal, individually and cumulatively with the other applications before this inquiry and in the planning process, on tourism and other economic factors, and to demonstrate that the Applicant’s assessment of the socio-economic impacts in their ES is inadequate. If the Council provide such socio-economic evidence it will be presented in the timetabled session 4 (March/April 2014) in conjunction with the other individual and cumulative socio economic points relating to other proposals.”*

2.2. As set out in that updated outline statement of case, the Council have been investigating the socio-economic impacts. In concluding that there was a need to critically investigate the applicant’s assertions about the socio-economic impacts of the projects the Council have been mindful of the fact that in the list of matters to be considered at the Inquiry the Secretary of State included:

*“the individual and combined social and economic impact of the proposed developments, including on tourism”*

2.3. As emphasised in the Council’s opening statement<sup>1</sup> in researching and investigating the socio-economic impacts the Council have also been mindful of the advice in EN-1 that positive evidence of harm will need to be provided.

2.4. The Council have now concluded their investigations and has concluded that, given the siting of the proposals within SSA’s and given that the proposals are for nationally important infrastructure projects, there is insufficient evidence to support an impact on socio-economic interests of sufficient magnitude to give rise to a refusal of some or all of the projects

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 52.

on this ground. In the circumstances the Council do not intend to call evidence on the socio-economic impacts of these developments and do not intend to pursue an argument that they should be refused on that basis.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

3.1. Although the Council will not be pursuing an objection on the basis of impact on socio-economic interests, they otherwise maintain their position as set out in their updated outline statement of case, opening statement, and statements of case for individual sessions. The Council is continuing to seek to agree matters and resolve objections where they can reasonably and properly do so, and will update the Inquiry again if there are any further changes to their outline statement of case.