



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

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Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing further to my letter of 7 December 2017 regarding the public consultation in England and Wales on the process and criteria for designating potentially suitable sites in a new National Policy Statement (NPS) for nuclear power projects with over 1GW of single reactor capacity for the period 2026-2035. This consultation closed on 15 March 2018. A copy of the consultation can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-policy-statement-for-new-nuclear-above-1gw-post-2025-siting-criteria-and-process>

Subsequent to my letter, a number of states raised questions relating to the requirements for consultation under Article 7 of the SEA Directive and requested further information on the future time frame for the NPS.

As outlined in my previous letter, this initial consultation represented the first step in a process towards a new nuclear NPS and focused on the criteria and process to designate potentially suitable sites for the deployment of new nuclear power stations. This was a non-statutory consultation and was copied to you in the spirit of openness and to give you early information on our intention to prepare a new NPS. As yet there is no draft plan or programme or relevant environmental report, so the formal requirement to consult under Article 7 of the SEA Directive does not apply at this early stage.

The next stages of the process and their indicative timings are laid out below. It is our current intention to consider Article 7 of the SEA Directive at stage (c) when the draft NPS and environmental report have been prepared. Regardless of the conclusion of that consideration under Article 7, the UK will send details of that consultation to you when it is launched.

- (a) NPS Siting Criteria and Process Consultation – Closed March 2018
- (b) Publication of Response to NPS Siting Criteria and Process Consultation - June 2018
- (c) Consultation on draft NPS and Environmental Report – Winter 2018/19-Spring 2019
- (d) Parliamentary Scrutiny of Draft NPS and Environmental Assessments – Spring 2019-Summer 2019
- (e) Publication of Response to Draft NPS and Environmental Report Consultation – Summer 2019
- (f) Publication of Final NPS and Environmental Report – Winter 2019/20

I am writing separately to those organisations and individuals who responded regarding the opportunity for the public to participate in the consultation process.

Yours faithfully,


Nuclear Directorate