



**Business and Community Project Liaison Group meeting, Tuesday 26th May, 4pm-5.30pm
at Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Office, 20 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UF**

Notes & Action Points

1. Introductions

Chair – Paula Seager, Natural PR

Secretary – Kate Howard, Natural PR

Chris Tomlinson - Rampion Development Manager, E.ON

Richard Carpenter - Onshore Cable Package Manager, E.ON

Philip Tarren – Substation Site Manager, E.ON

Steve O’Neill – Cable Route Site Manager, E.ON

Jack Mountstephen – Membership Sales Executive, Sussex Chamber of Commerce

Andrew Knight – Brighton Marina

Alan Brothers – Vice President and Recreational Sea Angling Representative for Sussex, Newhaven
Deep Sea Anglers

Cllr Simon Newell – Brighton and Hove Strategic Partnership

Elizabeth Taylor – Clerk, Henfield Parish Council

Penny Shimmin – SpeakUp Forum – NCD A Ltd

Apologies

Tony Mernagh - Brighton & Hove Business Forum

Martin Searle - Federation of Small Businesses - East Sussex

Tina Tilley - Worthing and Adur Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Maddy Carr - Tourism SouthEast

Debbie Thomas - Bolney Parish Council

SiobhanWalker - West Sussex Strategic Partnership

Jenny Pilgram - Worthing Community Partnership

Jim Prior - Worthing Divers

Presentation for points 2 – 7. All of the E.ON team contributed to this. Please see presentation slides for details.

Questions were taken from the floor during the presentation

2. Final design (offshore, cable route and substation)

Elizabeth Taylor asked whether the cable will be drilled under the railway and A27 only. Richard Carpenter replied that there will be four drills which will go under; the railway, the River Adur and A283, the beach and A259, the A27 and Upper Brighton Road.

Elizabeth Taylor asked what will be affected, e.g. traffic? Richard confirmed that they do not intend to close roads completely, that the drills were designed to keep the busiest roads open and that smaller roads would use traffic measures to keep the roads open at all times.

Elizabeth Taylor asked if the substation hums or makes any kind of noise. Chris Tomlinson replied that only when you are close up will you be able to hear anything, and that the substation is quite a distance from the nearest dwelling.

Elizabeth Taylor asked how much progress will be made in one day when installing the cable. Richard Carpenter replied that it could be up to 700m per day (max), but was more likely to be 500m per day in the case of the trencher, although this would vary depending on ground conditions and the weather. He added that progress will be slower at field and road boundaries and water crossings, but there will be teams ahead of the trencher to aid progress over boundaries.

Elizabeth Taylor asked how progress would be when tarmacking. Richard Carpenter replied that there will be teams working on roads who will close up any trenches right away. Elizabeth Taylor asked how long trenching over a road will take, half a day? Richard Carpenter replied yes about half a day's work followed by the time required for the newly laid road surfaces to cure which is normally in the region of 48 hours' drying time depending on the specification of the road surface required. Richard reiterated that it is intended that one half of the road will be completed before working on the other side to maintain the flow of traffic. The intention is also to work on one road crossing at a time but this would also be subject to the requirements of the highways department.

3. Indicative construction programme

Elizabeth Taylor asked what notice there would be for any disruptions. Richard Carpenter referred her to the communication plan as discussed with the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Project Liaison Group on 12th May 2015: there will be 5 days' notice on the project website www.eonenergy.com/rampion and a free phone number as well as a 14 day and 5 day notice at key PRoW access points, junctions and car parks, with enough advance warning for walkers / riders to use diversions.

Philip Tarren mentioned that there will be two abnormal loads using Wineham Lane to transport the transformers to the substation site. Elizabeth Taylor said she would be interested to see when the machinery passes through Wineham Lane and Philip Tarren said that it would be up to the Police to decide when to arrange this but that it is usually late at night or early on a Sunday morning to avoid impacts on road users. Local residents would be informed in advance.

4. Minimising construction impact

No questions were raised.

5. Construction communications

No questions were raised.

6. Operations & maintenance

Alan Brothers commented that he estimates an increase in vessel movements during offshore construction.

Alan Brothers asked about the figures for the dimensions of the turbines. Chris Tomlinson replied that the hub height is 85metres and 140m to blade tip when vertical. The turbines are manufactured in Northern Europe. He sought greater detail on the turbine design and asked for this to be raised again in the next meeting.

Alan Brothers asked if the work would take place 7 days a week, as there are 40 angling boats on the water at weekends. Chris Tomlinson said that the onshore construction would be 5 days a week and Saturday mornings. Chris noted that the offshore construction programme had yet to be finalised but that there would be two installation vessels each working on one foundation / turbine site at a time. A 500m safety exclusion zone would be required around each of the installation vessels and Notices to Mariners and other communications would be provided to sea users, particularly divers and fishermen.

Penny Shimmin said that it was only a traffic issue and that nothing about this work was negative – in fact it is good to inform people of the Rampion construction work so that it can be celebrated.

Action for next meeting - Make this an agenda item for October's meeting: to discuss the offshore work and how it will affect divers, fishermen and so on. Consider holding a meeting in Newhaven in February. Paula Seager added that sea users will have a very different point of view to the onshore group so this would be a good idea.

Penny Shimmim suggested that the lifeboat station in Newhaven would be a good location for the next meeting, although it would need to be at a time that was good for everyone – i.e. an evening. Recreational craft users may not realise that the area will be both a recreational and working area.

Jack Mountstephen suggested that it could also be useful to have town chambers liaising together for future meetings. Chris Tomlinson said that he has presented at Joint Chambers meetings in the past and that he is booked in for January to communicate the offshore construction plans to them.

7. Supply chain, skills and education

No questions were raised.

8. PLG meetings and contact points

Paula Seager commented that this PLG meeting in October will be key and that the full list of sea users should be contacted when offshore details are more defined.

Elizabeth Taylor said that there have been really good emails from E.ON; the meetings have been good as have visits to the Parish. She knows how much people worry about disruption and intrusion.

Richard Carpenter added that it is a two-way street when it comes to feedback, and E.ON find the feedback extremely useful.

Andrew Knight said that the Marina need to know about updates so that they can take account of it at the right time. Chris Tomlinson said that the Marina are on his Stakeholder Contact Database and will receive email alerts during construction.

Penny Shimmin said that the sea users – diving and fishing – need the fantastic communication that's already taken place with the groups so far.

Chris Tomlinson said that some sea user groups have not shown as much interest while the offshore work is a long way off but he agreed that it was very important to include them as much as possible as offshore construction approaches. He agreed that divers and fishermen are particularly important groups.

Jack Mountstephen commented that, although it's a long way off, he would be interested to see the difference financially in the future, such as house prices and local companies used etc., and he would like to see E.ON continue to be so interested in things at a later date. Chris Tomlinson said there would possibly be a local content study at a later date but wasn't able to confirm at this stage.

9. AOB

N/A