

[Address of consultation body / Reg 9(1)(c) consultee]

[Date]

Dear Sir or Madam,

## **PROPOSED NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION – ‘THE MOORSIDE PROJECT’ CUMBRIA**

### **DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER STAGE 1 CONSULTATION - STRATEGIC ISSUES**

#### **REGULATION 11 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2009 ("THE EIA REGULATIONS") (AS AMENDED)**

##### **1. INTRODUCTION**

NuGeneration Limited ("NuGen") intends to make an application ("the Proposed Application") to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") pursuant to section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") to authorise the construction, operation and maintenance of an up to 3.6 gigawatt nuclear generating station and associated development at or in the vicinity of the Moorside Site, adjacent to the Sellafield site in West Cumbria (the "Moorside Project"). The Moorside Project will require a DCO under the 2008 Act because the capacity of the generating station will be more than 50 megawatts. It therefore falls within the definition of a nationally significant infrastructure project under sections 14 and 15 of the 2008 Act. NuGen intends to submit the Proposed Application in 2017.

##### **2. APPROACH TO CONSULTATION**

The 2008 Act requires that certain statutory consultation (pursuant to sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act) is carried out prior to the submission of any application for a DCO.

NuGen is undertaking statutory consultation on the Moorside Project in two Stages. Stage 1 Consultation (a strategic issues consultation) is taking place between **16 May 2015** and **25 July 2015**. Stage 1 Consultation is being undertaken by NuGen pursuant to sections 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act and regulations 10 and 11 of the EIA Regulations.

Once the Moorside Project has been further refined (in part using feedback received at Stage 1 Consultation), NuGen will undertake a Stage 2 Consultation in Spring/Summer 2016. The Stage 2 Consultation will be undertaken pursuant to sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act and regulations 10 and 11 of the EIA Regulations.

In addition to the enclosed notice (pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act), NuGen has published a Statement of Community Consultation pursuant to section 47 of the 2008 Act which can be found at [www.nugenconsultation.com](http://www.nugenconsultation.com).

##### **3. EIA DEVELOPMENT**

The EIA Regulations require an environmental impact assessment ("EIA") to be set out in an Environmental Statement to accompany certain applications for DCOs. All developments in Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations require EIA. Schedule 1 includes nuclear power stations (Schedule 1, paragraph 2(b)). NuGen therefore proposes to provide an Environmental Statement as part of the Proposed Application for the Moorside Project.

Pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended), NuGen will

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be publishing a notice of the Proposed Application in the London Gazette, the Edinburgh Gazette, the Times, Lloyds List, Fishing News and in a number of newspapers circulating in the area of the proposed development. Notices will appear in papers on the 7/8<sup>th</sup> May and 14/15<sup>th</sup> May in accordance with the Regulation 4. ("the section 48 notice").

Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations requires that NuGen sends a copy of the section 48 notice (at the same time as publishing that notice) to the consultation bodies (as defined in the EIA Regulations) and to any person notified to NuGen in accordance with regulation 9(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations.

Accordingly, NuGen hereby provides you with a copy of the section 48 notice that is being published in the above listed publications (please see the copy of the notice enclosed with this letter).

#### **4. STAGE 1 CONSULTATION**

The purpose of the Notice is to bring the proposed application and Nugen's Stage 1 consultation to your attention. NuGen would like to take this opportunity to invite you to submit any consultation feedback that you may wish to make on the Moorside Project or any of the consultation materials that are being released **from 16 May 2015 until 25 July 2015**.

The following documents will be made available for the Stage 1 Consultation:

- 4.1 Consultation Overview Document;
- 4.2 The Consultation Document (Including a summary of preliminary environmental information and a questionnaire feedback form), and
- 4.3 The Preliminary Environmental Information Pack (comprising the draft Scoping Report for the Environmental Impact Assessment, Survey Monitoring Reports and the Habitats Regulation Assessment Evidence Plan).

These materials will be made available at [www.nugenconsultation.com](http://www.nugenconsultation.com) from the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and will also be available in the ways set out in the enclosed Notice.

During the Stage 1 Consultation period, NuGen also intends to submit a Scoping Report and request for a Scoping Opinion to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) pursuant to regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations. You may therefore be contacted in due course by the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Scoping Report that it receives from NuGen.

Following the end of the Stage 1 Consultation period and receipt of consultee responses, NuGen will have regard to the comments received as it refines the Moorside Project further. This is therefore an important time to have your say and potentially influence NuGen's proposals for the Moorside Project.

Set out below is some information about NuGen, the Moorside Project and the consultation process that may be of assistance:

#### **4.4 The Applicant**

NuGen is a joint venture between Toshiba and ENGIE (formerly GDF Suez), two strong multinational companies, both with reputations for operational and engineering excellence, combined with comprehensive experience and expertise in the energy sector. NuGen's nuclear reactor technology provider is Westinghouse Electric Company, a group company of Toshiba.

#### 4.5 **The Moorside Project**

The Moorside Project will include three Westinghouse AP1000® reactors, supporting cooling infrastructure, fuel and waste storage facilities, ancillary buildings, electricity transmission infrastructure, earthworks and landscaping, a marine off-loading facility and access and transport arrangements. The scope of the development will continue to evolve throughout the pre-submission process and further detail will be consulted on during the Stage 2 Consultation.

In addition to the power station development, there will be a need for supporting 'Associated Development', some of which will be in locations as set out in the Section 48 Notice away from the Moorside Site. This is likely to include transport infrastructure improvements, construction worker accommodation and related facilities and transport and logistics centres. Much of this will only be required for a temporary period while construction work is taking place.

#### 4.6 **Preliminary environmental Information and likely significant environmental effects of the Moorside Project**

As set out above, due to the nature and size of the Moorside Project, NuGen is undertaking an EIA for the Moorside Project.

The EIA will assess the likely significant environmental effects of the Moorside Project, including impacts on transport, noise and vibration, air quality, radiological issues, soils, geology, agricultural land and land quality, the freshwater environment, marine and coastal physical management, landscape, the visual context, the historic environment, biodiversity, countryside recreation, socio-economics and the human population and on climate. In accordance with regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations, NuGen has prepared preliminary environmental information in the form of the Preliminary Environmental Information Pack appended to the Consultation Document as set out above. The Preliminary Environmental Information Pack presents the environmental information gathered to date and provides the results of NuGen's preliminary, high-level assessment as to the likely significant environmental effects of the construction, operation and maintenance of the Moorside Project. This preliminary assessment was undertaken to inform its request for a Scoping Opinion from the Secretary of State in accordance with regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations.

The Preliminary Environmental Information Pack does not set out the final EIA findings. A more detailed Preliminary Environmental Information Report will be prepared for the Stage 2 Consultation, once the Moorside Project has been further refined. A full Environmental Statement will then be submitted as part of the application for a DCO for the Moorside Project in 2017.

#### 4.7 **How to respond**

This stage of consultation will close on **25 July 2015** and NuGen therefore invites any feedback that you might have on or before this date.

Your response to this stage of NuGen's consultation may be made via the feedback form available at [www.nugenconsultation.com](http://www.nugenconsultation.com) or through any of the means set out on the enclosed Notice.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us via [haveyoursay@nugeneration.com](mailto:haveyoursay@nugeneration.com).

Yours faithfully,



Ian Shrubsall

Head of Consents and Planning

Enclosures: Copy of a notice to be published pursuant to section 48 of the 2008 Act