

INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR FIRST NEW NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS - UPDATE, OCTOBER 2011 The Government is committed to enabling new nuclear power stations to come forward by removing unnecessary obstacles to investment, without providing public subsidy.

There has been some changes to the indicative timeline since it was last published in August 2010 - detailed below.

Changes since previous version of the timeline

- Waste and decommissioning funding (line 1) – The previous version of the timeline showed Funded Decommissioning Programme Guidance being published in Q4 2010. However the Government decided that it would be desirable to undertake a further round of public consultation before publishing final Guidance and published a consultation document in December 2010. The revised publication date for the Guidance is December 2011. The first Funded Decommissioning Programme submissions are now expected at the beginning of 2012.
- Regulatory Justification (line 2) - The previous version of the timeline indicated that decisions on Regulatory Justification would be made around Q4 2010. This remained the case with the Secretary of State publishing his decisions in October 2010 and the decisions being given effect by Statutory Instrument. These were approved by both the House of Lords and the House of Commons in November 2010¹
- Generic Design Assessment (GDA) and site licensing (line 3) – The previous timeline originally stated that the GDA process would conclude in June 2011. This has been by agreement between Regulators and Industry, to the end of 2011 to enable the final Weightman report to be considered following the events in Fukushima. This has not altered the fact that developers will need to implement resolution plans for any residual issues to the satisfaction of the Regulators before final Design Acceptance Confirmations (DAC) and Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) can be issued. The regulators will continue to assess site-specific issues throughout the lifetime of any new nuclear power stations.

It also shows that applications for a site licence and environmental permits were put in earlier this year. Decisions on their permission are pending, along with first safety concrete permission, but are expected in 2013.

- National Policy Statement and planning (line 4) – The previous version of the timeline indicated designation of the Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS) occurring early 2011. The Nuclear NPS was designated in July 2011², following consideration of the Interim report by Dr Mike Weightman into the Japanese earthquake and tsunami: Implication for the UK nuclear industry
- Electricity Market Reform (line 5)³ – this has been updated to reflect developments made since the previous timeline. The Carbon Price Floor was announced in the Budget 2011. The EMR White paper

¹ http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/nuclear/new/reg_just/reg_just.aspx

² http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/nuclear/new/siting/siting.aspx

³ http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/legislation/white_papers/emr_wp_2011/emr_wp_2011.aspx

was published in July 2011, setting out plans for Feed in Tariffs with Contracts for Difference (FIT CfD) and the Emissions Performance Standard, and including a further consultation on the Capacity Mechanism. It also set out the intention to work actively with relevant parties to enable early investment decisions to progress to timetable wherever possible, including those required ahead of implementation of the FIT CfD. This is shown as 'Investment Enabling Discussions.'

An EMR technical update is expected at the turn of the year, covering the Capacity Mechanism, the Institutional framework for delivering EMR and the early low-carbon investment enabling enabling Discussions. The Carbon Price Floor will come into force on 1 April 2013. The first contracts under the new FIT CfD are expected to be signed in 2014.

- National Grid (line 6) – This line shows the various phases of work required to connect new nuclear power stations to the electricity transmission system. Plans and timings for specific sites are based on dates set out in connection agreements between prospective operators and the National Grid.
- Construction (line 7) – Planning application for preliminary works was granted by local councils in July 2011.

Office for Nuclear Development

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