

**NWIFCA Quarterly Meeting
20 September 2013: 11.00.a.m.**

**AGENDA
ITEM NO.
13**

WINDFARM, CABLES AND PIPELINES UPDATE

Recommendations:

1. **That the report be received.**

Background

1. The Irish Sea and in particular the NWIFCA District contains several wind farms at different stages in the planning, construction and operation. Members have requested an update about the status of wind farms in the district.
2. This report focuses particularly on those wind farms that are currently going through the planning and licensing process. It also updates members on other construction projects planned for our District

Burbo Bank Extension

3. The plans for Burbo Bank Extension are currently with the Planning Inspectorate and are in the pre-examination phase. The next step will be a public meeting that will discuss the procedure for the examination of the plans including the setting of dates for submission of responses.
4. Officers are keeping a watching brief of this process and will submit a response on behalf of the NWIFCA when required.
5. Because the cable route does not landfall in England, neighboring English councils are not formally required to respond the plans. However, responses are welcomed along with those from any interested party.

Walney Extension

6. Plans for the Walney Extension are currently with the Planning Inspectorate. A request for expressions of interest in the project closes on 20th September. The NWIFCA has submitted this expression of interest. Expressing interest at this stage ensures that NWIFCA will be kept up to date with the progress of the examination and prompted to make a more detailed response. Not registering interest does not preclude the submission of a response at a later date.

Rhiannon

7. This windfarm is not in the district but may be of interest to members. A scoping report has gone to Anglesey Council for assessment. It is likely that the plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in 2014.

National Grid: North West Coast Connections

8. National Grid are still working on producing more detailed proposals for this project and therefore no more information has come from National Grid. However, it is looking likely that proposals will include a tunnel under Morecambe Bay.

**A Leadbeater
Science Officer
6 September 2013**