

SP Energy Networks response to Welsh Government Consultation Document

Call for Evidence and Projects National Development Framework

Anglesey Reinforcement

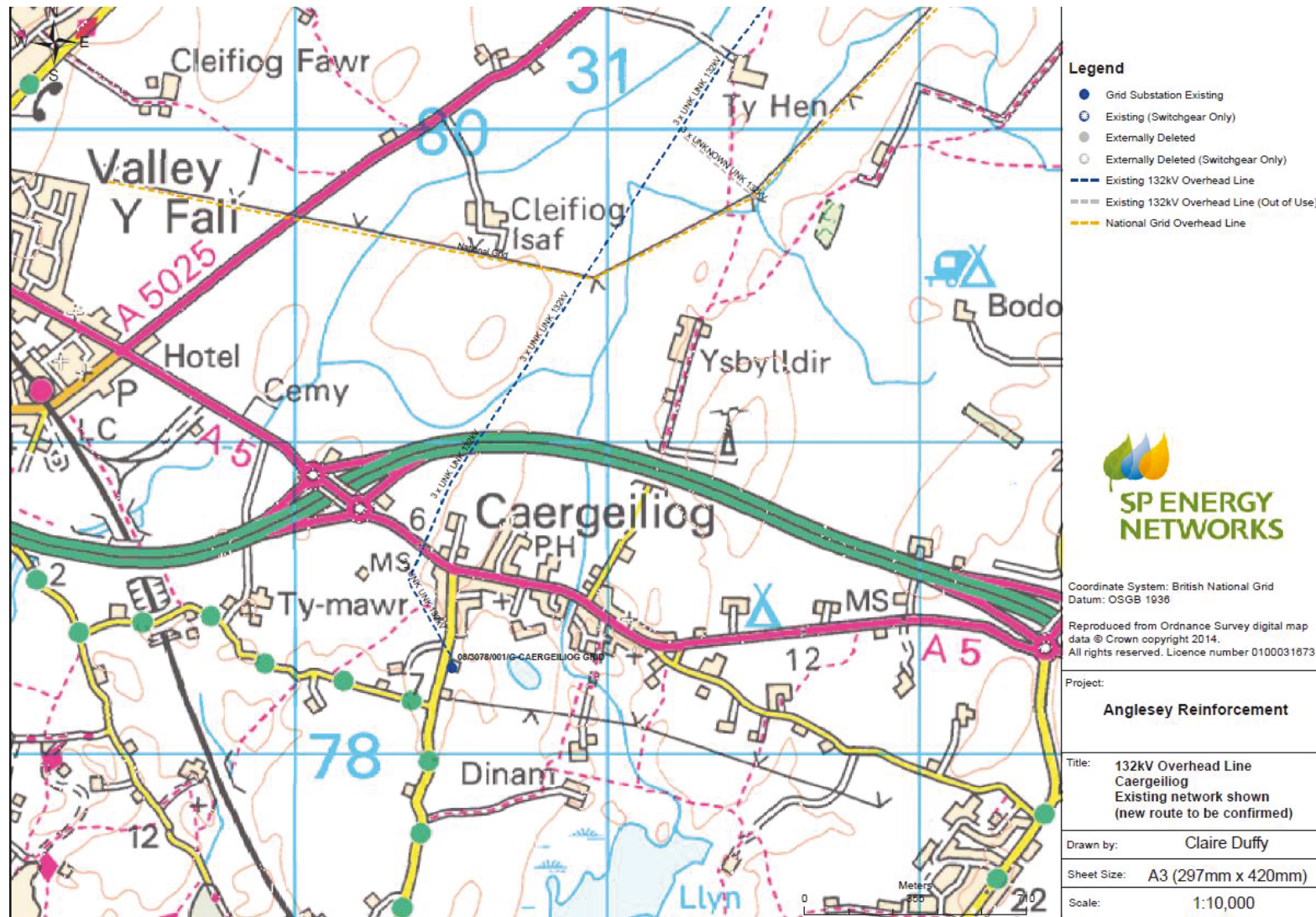
Submission of Evidence Form– National Development Framework	
Name	Steven Edwards
Contact details	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Date	1 March 2017
Title of evidence	Anglesey Reinforcement
Summary of evidence	<p>This evidence relates to the proposed Anglesey Reinforcement Project promoted by SP Energy Networks. This project proposes new 132kV and 33kV grid infrastructure to maintain security of supply in the area.</p> <p>The project is in response to SP Energy Networks making an investment on Anglesey to facilitate future growth and development as well as providing an increased resilience to supplies to the existing 38,000 home and business across Anglesey. The current project design is to install 1km of new 132kV overhead line and .0.75km of underground cable, and 9km of new 33kV overhead line.</p> <p>Currently, the Project is at the pre-application stage with an application due in Spring 2017. It will be operational by Autumn 2018.</p>
Summary of key issues/conclusions	<p>There are limited environmental issues although local communities are in interested in the underground cable route. The Project is also close to the proposed National Grid North Wales Connection Project and there is landowner interest.</p>
Why have you submitted this	This a project providing critical

evidence?	infrastructure for an area of North Wales where there is investment interest in investing on the island. Reference in the NDF policy would support the planning case for the Project and build on the support in existing policy included in National Planning Policies.
How should this evidence inform the development of the NDF?	Building on references in PPW, it is anticipated that the new NDF will include reference to the need for new grid infrastructure to support sustainable development. As such, reference is expected to be made in the NDF to promoting investment and delivery of grid network.
How does this evidence and any actions it recommends help achieve the 7 well-being goals?	Whilst the Project is not subject to EIA procedures, an environmental appraisal of likely impacts has been carried out which concludes there will be no significant effects. SP Energy Networks is committed to the proposed design which has a value of approximately £13m which represents a significant investment in Anglesey and this would also support wider investment on the island. As well as respecting the natural and human environments, engagement with local communities has led to design changes and gained support locally for the investment.
Why is the evidence of national significance?	The type of development proposed requires section 37 consent under the Electricity Act 1989, which is decided by the Secretary of State of the UK Government's Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.
Do you agree for your evidence to be made public? (Only evidence that can be made	Yes, although SP Energy Networks would like to agree the final presentation format.

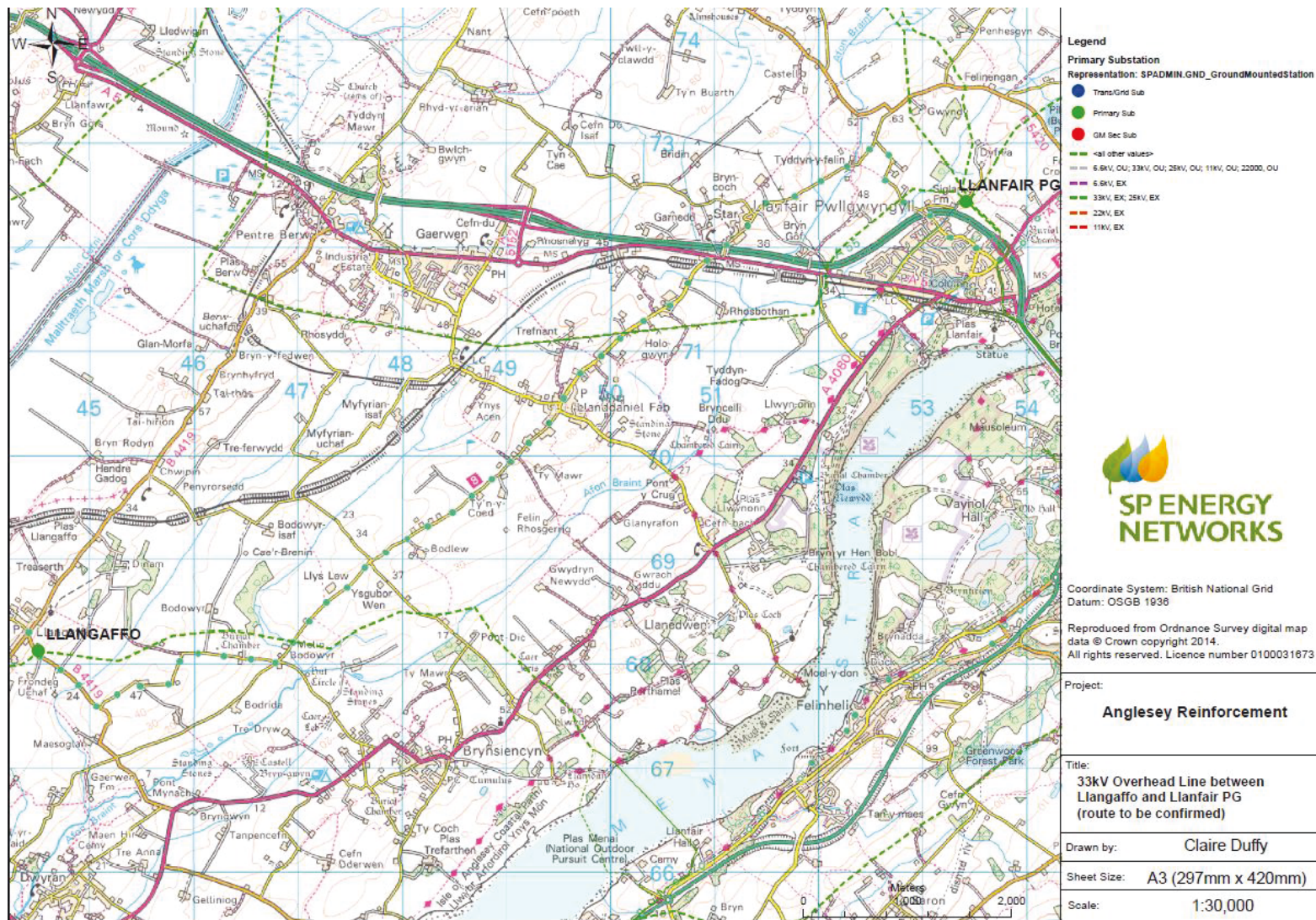
public will inform the development of the NDF)	

Submission of Projects Form – National Development Framework	
Name	As above
Contact details	As above
Date	As above
Interest in site	SP Energy Networks manages the electricity distribution network for an area covering Merseyside, Cheshire, North Shropshire, and North Wales which includes the mid Wales area, on behalf of the licence owner SP Manweb.
Details of landowner	Various stages of negotiations made with landowners,
Title of project	Anglesey Reinforcement Project
Summary of project	As above
Location of project (Please attach location map)	Please see attached plan.
What consents are required?	Section 37 consent under the Electricity Act 1989.
Consents already granted relevant to project	Permitted development works at Caergeiliog substation are planned to commence in 2018.
Public engagement to date	Local public consultation with community councils, the Isle of Anglesey Council and statutory bodies has been carried out.
Has an environmental assessment been prepared? (Yes / No)	EIA Screening Report concludes no likely significant effects and as such no need for further EIA assessment.
Are there any site designations or constraints affecting the site?	None.
What is the delivery timescale for the project?	Autumn / Winter 2018.

Plan of Anglesey Reinforcement



Plan of Anglesey Reinforcement



North Wales Wind farms Connection Project

Submission of Evidence Form– National Development Framework	
Name	Steven Edwards
Contact details	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Date	1 March 2017
Title of evidence	North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project
Summary of evidence	<p>This evidence relates to the proposed North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project promoted by SP Energy Networks. This Project proposes new 132kV grid infrastructure to support renewable energy generation in North Wales. The Project is in response to SP Energy Networks having a number of grid connection agreements with developers of onshore wind farms who have brought forward renewable energy proposals following support for these schemes in TAN 8 and PPW.</p> <p>The current project design is for a new 132kV overhead line on wood pole supports, which follows a series of public consultations and design iterations.</p> <p>The North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project was granted a DCO in July 2016 and a number of planning requirements have been discharged in late 2016/early 2017.</p> <p>The link to project information on the Planning Inspectorate website as follows:</p> <p>https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/north-wales-wind-farms-connection/</p>
Summary of key issues/conclusions	The key issues have been the likely environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with the provision of new grid

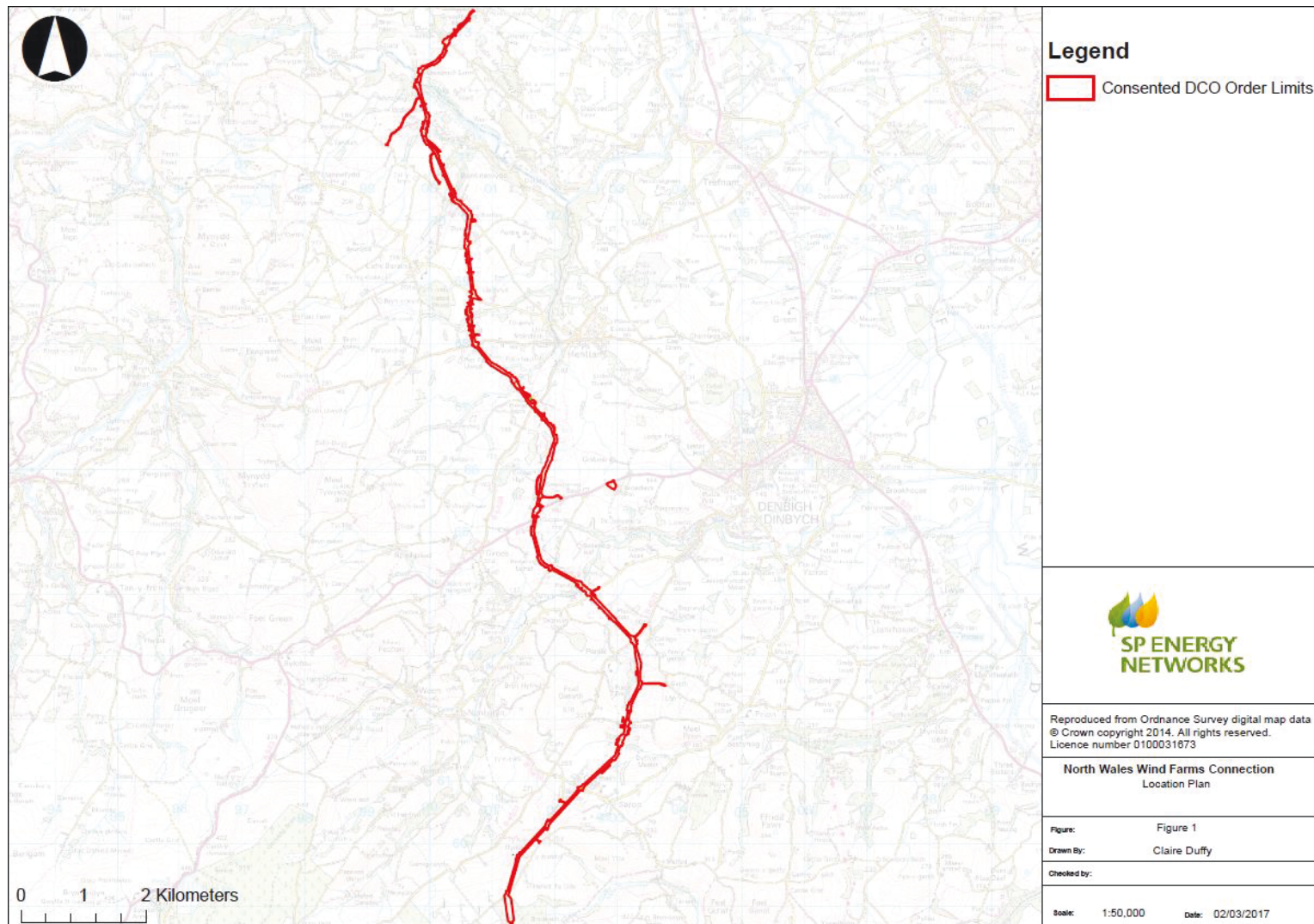
	<p>infrastructure, and in particular, the likely cumulative impacts of the level of wind farms and grid infrastructure proposed.</p> <p>These issues have been expressed publically by local communities and the local planning authorities.</p>
Why have you submitted this evidence?	<p>Whilst the Project has the benefit of planning consent, it is in the pre-construction phase and there remains developer interest in investing in renewable energy proposals in North Wales.</p>
How should this evidence inform the development of the NDF?	<p>Building on references in TAN 8 (Annex C) and PPW, it is anticipated that the new NDF will include reference to the need for new grid infrastructure to support sustainable development. As such, reference is expected to be made in the NDF which supports proposals meeting the established national renewable energy targets in this area.</p>
How does this evidence and any actions it recommends help achieve the 7 well-being goals?	<p>The published EIA Environmental Statement of environmental and socio-economic effects shows there will be limited significant landscape and visual effects however these have been deemed to not be at a scale that outweigh the benefits of the Project and should withhold granting consent.</p> <p>The proposed design has an estimated project value of approximately £33m and represents a significant investment in North Wales and supports much greater investment in the renewable energy generation. The EIA supports objectives for respecting the natural and human environments.</p> <p>Ongoing community liaison work</p>

	will include engaging with local landowners and residents regarding construction activities. SP Energy Networks is aware that its proposals could facilitate potential benefits secured from the investment made by the renewable energy developers.
Why is the evidence of national significance?	The type of development proposed in the North Wales Wind Farm Connection Project is defined in the Planning Act 2008 as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure project (NSIP). Following the recent Planning (Wales) Act 2016, this type of project now falls to be determined as a Development of National Significance (DNS) to be determined by the Welsh Government.
Do you agree for your evidence to be made public? (Only evidence that can be made public will inform the development of the NDF)	Yes, although would like to agree final presentation format.

Submission of Projects Form – National Development Framework	
Name	As above
Contact details	As above
Date	As above
Interest in site	SP Energy Networks manages the electricity distribution network for an area covering Merseyside, Cheshire, North Shropshire, and North Wales which includes the mid Wales area, on behalf of the licence owner SP Manweb.
Details of landowner	Various stages of negotiations made with landowners,
Title of project	North Wales Wind Farm Connection Project
Summary of project	As above
Location of project (Please attach location map)	Please see attached plan.
What consents are required?	Planning permission under the Town and Country Planning Act has been granted on appeal for the associated substation development.
Consents already	The wind farms have the benefit of planning consents.

granted relevant to project	
Public engagement to date	A series of public consultations have been carried out and details have been published in a Consultation Report which is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website link for this project. https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/north-wales-wind-farms-connection/
Has an environmental assessment been prepared? (Yes / No)	Yes – see: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/north-wales-wind-farms-connection/
Are there any site designations or constraints affecting the site?	Please refer to the EIA reports.
What is the delivery timescale for the project?	Start on site Spring 2017 and completed by Winter 2018.

Plan of North Wales Wind Farm Connection Project



Mid Wales Connection Proposals

Submission of Evidence Form– National Development Framework	
Name	Steven Edwards
Contact details	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Date	1 March 2017
Title of evidence	Mid Wales Connection Proposals
Summary of evidence	<p>This evidence relates to proposals in Mid-Wales for new 132kV grid infrastructure to support renewable energy generation. These proposals are in response to SP Energy Networks having a number of grid connection agreements with developers who are bringing forward renewable energy projects following support in TAN 8 and PPW. Proposals are subject to change depending on the level of additional renewable energy coming forward, if any. The current SP Mid-Wales Connections Project is deferred pending the outcome of a review of decisions made by the Secretary of State following the Mid Wales Conjoined Public Inquiry in 2014 and the link to information on this project is as follows:</p> <p>https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/sp-mid-wales-electricity-connections-project-sp-manweb/?ipcsection=docs .</p>
Summary of key issues/conclusions	<p>Key issues have been the likely environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with the provision of new grid infrastructure, and in particular, the likely cumulative impacts of the level of wind farms and grid infrastructure proposed.</p> <p>These issues have been expressed publically by local</p>

	communities and the local planning authority Powys Council.
Why have you submitted this evidence?	SP Energy Networks is aware that there remains developer interest in investing in renewable energy in Mid-Wales and there remains a supportive national planning policy framework. In the event of these schemes progressing and no changes being made to national policy, with no grid capacity available, new infrastructure will be needed to support the developer and national policy objectives.
How should this evidence inform the development of the NDF?	Building on references in TAN 8 (Annex C) and PPW, it is anticipated that the new NDF will include reference to the need for new grid infrastructure to support sustainable development. As such, reference is expected to be made in the NDF to the lack of additional grid capacity currently available in Mid-Wales to facilitate a development of this scale. The new NDF should acknowledge that proposals for increasing grid capacity will be required as long as there is a national policy support elsewhere for the development of renewable energy. It is important to note that there will be further upstream investment required in the National Grid Infrastructure
How does this evidence and any actions it recommends help achieve the 7 well-being goals?	More assessment of environmental and socio-economic costs and benefits is required. Based on work carried out by SP Energy Networks to date, the SP Mid Wales Connections project had a value of between circa £70m (excluding NGC reinforcement costs) and represents a significant investment in Mid-Wales infrastructure. The work to date in respect of the EIA assessments supports

	<p>objectives for respecting the natural and human environments. More engagement is needed with local communities.</p> <p>SP Energy Networks is aware that its own proposals could facilitate potential benefits secured from the investment made by the renewable energy developers.</p>
Why is the evidence of national significance?	<p>New 132kV grid infrastructure has until recently been defined in the Planning Act 2008 as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure project (NSIP). Following the recent Planning (Wales) Act 2016, this form of development now falls to be determined as a Development of National Significance (DNS) to be determined by the Welsh Government.</p>
Do you agree for your evidence to be made public? (Only evidence that can be made public will inform the development of the NDF)	<p>Yes, although would like to agree final presentation format.</p>

Submission of Projects Form – National Development Framework	
Name	As above
Contact details	As above
Date	As above
Interest in site	SP Energy Networks manages the electricity distribution network for an area covering Merseyside, Cheshire, North Shropshire, and North Wales which includes the mid Wales area, on behalf of the licence owner SP Manweb.
Details of landowner	Various stages of negotiations made with landowners,
Title of project	Mid Wales Connections Proposals
Summary of project	As above
Location of project (Please attach location map)	Please see attached plan.
What consents are required?	Planning consents associated with DNS procedure and landowner consents.
Consents already	There is already an extant section 37 consent granted under the

granted relevant to project	Electricity Act 1989 which has been implemented in part although not energised.
Public engagement to date	A series of public consultations were carried out in respect of the SP Mid Wales Connection Project and can be seen on the following website: http://www.spmidwalesconnections.info/english/
Has an environmental assessment been prepared? (Yes / No)	An EIA Scoping Report and Opinion was received for the SP Mid Wales Connection Project – see: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/sp-mid-wales-electricity-connections-project-sp-manweb/?ipcsection=docs
Are there any site designations or constraints affecting the site?	Please refer to the above EIA reports.
What is the delivery timescale for the project?	Unknown at present but can advise further.

SP Mid Wales Connection Proposals

