



# Severn Estuary Commission meeting

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024, 13:00 – 14:30, online.

## Attendees

Commission: Andrew Garrad (Chair) (AG)

Sue Barr (SB)

Nigel Costley (NC)

Madeleine Havard (MH)

Chris Mills (CM)

Ian Simm (IS)

Secretariat: Will Mansfield, Head of Sustainable Energy (WM)

Steph Jary, Deputy Director (SJ)

Joe Ball, Head of Communications (JB)

Nicola Lomax, Project Support Officer (NL)

Guests: Lucy Stephenson, The Crown Estate (LS)

Alys Morris, Severn Estuary Partnership (AM)

Thomas Murphy, The Crown Estate (TM)

Apologies: Peter Davies, Commissioner (PD)

Minutes: Nicola Lomax (NL)

## Confirmation of minutes and risk register

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. The risk register was discussed.

## Meetings and visits

AG outlined recent meetings with RWE, National Energy Systems Operator (NESO), and attendance at the Severn Estuary Partnership Forum and the Wales Coast and Seas Partnership stakeholder event.

## Finance work package update

IS provided an update on progress and next steps which was discussed by the Commission.

The Commission discussed the financing of compensatory habitats, including not only their creation but also the long-term monitoring and management required and noted the need for this to be a consideration in their conclusions.

## Energy systems work package update

AG provided an update on progress and next steps which was discussed by the Commission.



## **Environment work package update**

CM provided an update on progress and next steps which was discussed by the Commission.

## **Socio-economic work package update**

NC provided an update on the socio-economic work package and next steps which was discussed by the Commission.

## **Political Engagement**

The Secretariat is finalising a communications and political engagement strategy and will review this with the Commission in due course.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

The Commission remains committed to ensuring that all interested parties have the opportunity to provide their view about the feasibility of tidal energy in the Severn Estuary.

The importance of in-person stakeholder workshops has been an important element of the Commission's approach. However, with each of the work packages taking different approaches to stakeholder engagement, ranging from online topic-specific sessions to direct one-on-one engagements, the format, focus, and target audience of in-person workshops need to be carefully considered and the Commission discussed the best approach.

## **Final Reporting and Recommendations**

As we are approaching the later stages of the Commission's work, there is a need to determine how its final recommendations will be reached. The suggested approaches from the update paper were discussed.

## **AOB and upcoming meetings/events**

The Commission reviewed upcoming meetings.

## **Next meeting**

The next Commission meeting will be held online on Tuesday 19 November 2024.