

30 January 2024

Dear

ATISN 20046 – Request for information

Thank you for your request which was received on 2 January 2024. You asked for the following information:

1. Any correspondence or documentation, received by/copied to the Welsh Government from/by National Grid regarding the proposed Bute Energy/Green Gen Cymru Towy-Usk line, including National Grid's response, if any, to the pre-application consultation process. Plus, any responses to the above from Welsh Government.
2. Any internal communications / meeting minutes relating to correspondence or documentation received from National Grid regarding this proposed line, or to any consultation response received from National Grid, and documentation relating to any response made or action taken by Welsh Government
3. Any internal or external correspondence, meeting minutes or notes of discussions relating to the Independent Distribution Network Operator Licence (IDNO) licence application to Ofgem by Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru. In particular I would like information regarding the timeline for a decision on this application, (which according to Green Gen Cymru documentation was expected in July/August 2023). However, my request is not restricted to this. I would particularly like documentation relating to correspondence/discussion between Welsh Government and Ofgem, Welsh Government and Green Gen Cymru, or Ofgem and Green Gen Cymru, but again, my request is not restricted to this.

Our response

Following a search of our records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Information that may be of interest

Whilst not directly captured by your request, these previous information releases may be of interest to you:

- <https://www.gov.wales/atisn19275> - Correspondence relating to Bute Energy or GreenGEN Cymru
- <https://www.gov.wales/atisn17081> - Copies of correspondence with Bute Energy

The following information may also be helpful. Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) is the division of the Welsh Government responsible for processing Developments of National Significance (DNS) planning applications. Further information about our role and that of our Inspectors is available online: <https://www.gov.wales/planning-and-environment-decisions-wales/protocol>

Guidance on the DNS process is available online.

- Guidance for communities: <https://www.gov.wales/developments-national-significance-dns-engaging-process>
- Guidance for applicants and Local Planning Authorities: <https://www.gov.wales/developments-national-significance-dns-procedural-guide>

The documents which PEDW publishes for this potential DNS are available via our casework portal: <https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/searchresults?q=02379>

PEDW is currently working on a Scoping Direction for this project. When the Direction is finalised, it will be published to our casework portal.

If you have any queries about the DNS planning application process, please let us know. The best point of contact is PEDW.infrastructure@gov.wales

Yours sincerely