



The Committee Clerk
Environment and Sustainability Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.

Sent by email to ES.Comm@wales.gov.uk

7 November 2014

Consultation: General principles of the Planning (Wales) Bill

Tidal Lagoon Power welcomes the introduction of the Planning (Wales) Bill in October this year as a significant milestone towards positive planning reforms in Wales. Tidal Lagoon Power is promoting major infrastructure in Wales and considers that steps to improve delivery of key projects in the national interest is vital.

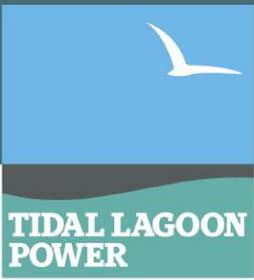
Tidal lagoons are a unique and significant opportunity to generate secure and affordable low carbon energy while providing a diverse range of direct and integral economic, social and environmental benefits.

The Tidal Lagoon Swansea Bay project establishes a scalable blueprint for tidal lagoons. If consented, that project will be the first in a series of lagoons, marking the beginning of a new industry. Our intention is to supply up to 8% of the UK's electricity by building five full-scale tidal lagoons in UK waters; three of the sites identified for further development are in Welsh waters.

The current situation is that energy NSIPs in Wales can be disadvantaged because of the limitations to the scope of project elements that can be consented under the Planning Act 2008 in Wales. We offer no comment on existing or future devolution settlements. However, we do ask that any reformed planning system in Wales enables an integrated and/or synchronised consent for nationally significant infrastructure projects such that future energy NSIPs in Wales are facilitated and not disadvantaged.

We recognise that there are a number of stages remaining in the Bill's passage through the National Assembly for Wales and that work will be underway within the Welsh Government on implementation of the planning reforms. We welcome the opportunity to discuss our views further with the Welsh Government as planning reform progresses.

Please contact me at catrin.jones@tidallagoonpower.com or 07867129796 if you have any queries or wish to discuss further.



Yours sincerely

Catrin Jones

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Tidal Lagoon Power