



Scottish and Southern
Energy

Energy and Planning 12 July 2007

A Developer's Perspective

- SSE plans investment of £2bn in secure, sustainable energy projects in next 3 years
- Already plans for another £2bn in early 2010's
- This covers:
 - Generation
 - Transmission
 - Distribution
 - Demand side

Planning and Consenting Issues

- Planning system must be fit for purpose
- Resources
 - Local Authorities
 - Statutory Consultees
- Training
 - Officials
 - Elected members
- Democratic Focus
 - Strategic and policy elements
 - Local elements

Experience to Date

- Process is unpredictable and takes too long
- Inconsistent approaches taken
- Objective, professional views often overruled by subjective ones
- Lack of accountability
- Planning Inquiries almost by default
- Poor understanding of energy and climate change
- Everyone complains!

Hope for the Future?

- Planning White Paper very encouraging
 - NPS
 - Pre-application consultation
 - IPC
- How do we get there?
 - NPS Local plans
 - Devolved administrations
- The better the future looks the more difficult the transition will be

Options to Consider

- Fee structure to build up resource and reinforce accountability
- Community engagement and involvement where possible
- Communication programme for energy and climate change investment plans