Information on the NSIPs Study

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are large development projects, such as Transport Routes, Power Stations or Wind Farms. NSIPs can only be built when they are approved by a Government Minister. The government’s Planning Inspectorate holds an examination for applications to develop an NSIP and advises the minister about whether to grant permission.

Members of the public have opportunities to make written statements and speak at hearings for NSIP examinations, and local communities often participate in NSIPs examinations. Scientific experts and other organisations also take part. But the Planning Inspectorate must also consider government policy for low carbon energy.

So, this study asks: **how are the concerns and aspirations of the public handled in the decision-making system for NSIPs?** It looks at how local communities and others are involved and investigates how evidence is put together.

The research will make recommendations about how to improve the decision-making process for NSIPs, to better hear and take account of the diverse concerns of the public.

The study is conducted by a team from UCL led by Professor Yvonne Rydin, together with Professor Maria Lee, Dr Simon Lock, Dr Lucy Natarajan and Efstathia Kostopoulou.

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