

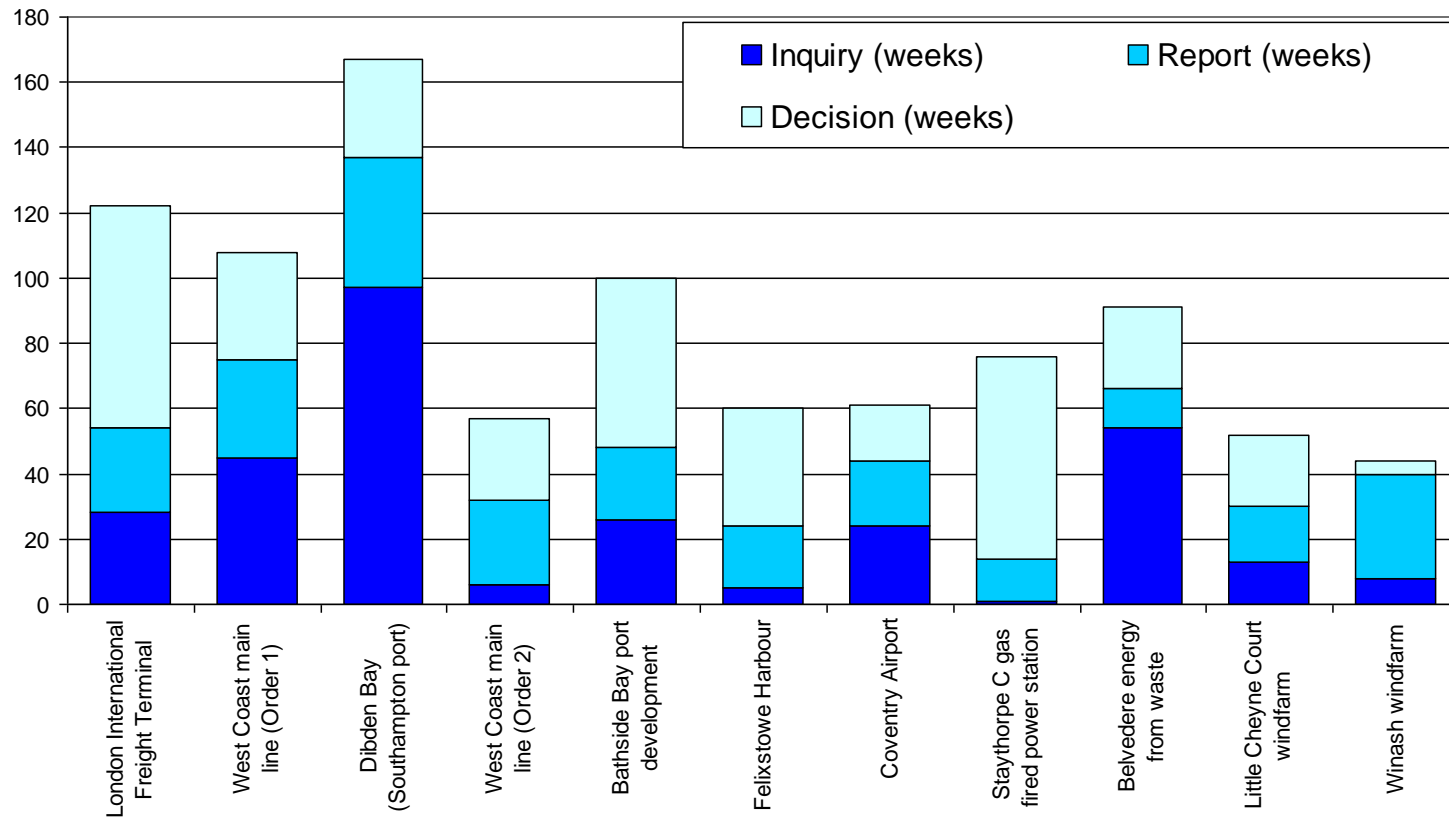
# Planning System for Energy Infrastructure: Implications of the Planning Bill for Energy Development Decisions

Richard Mellish – Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform

- Why the Government wants to reform the planning system
- How it is going to do that
- New energy infrastructure needed
- Challenges around delivery of the new infrastructure

- Planning system too inaccessible, slow, inefficient and uncertain
- Long delays are bad for business and communities
- Investment may be deterred by poor infrastructure and high planning costs
- This has important implications for delivering policy goals on energy, transport, climate change, housing and communities

**Time from start of inquiry to decision (weeks)**



- Government publishes National Policy Statements
- Improved preparation by developers at the pre-application stage
- Independent Infrastructure Planning Commission examines and determines applications
- Rationalised consent regime

## Structure

**Overarching NPS covering climate change and security of supply**

**Fossil fuel  
power stations**

**Renewable  
Energy**

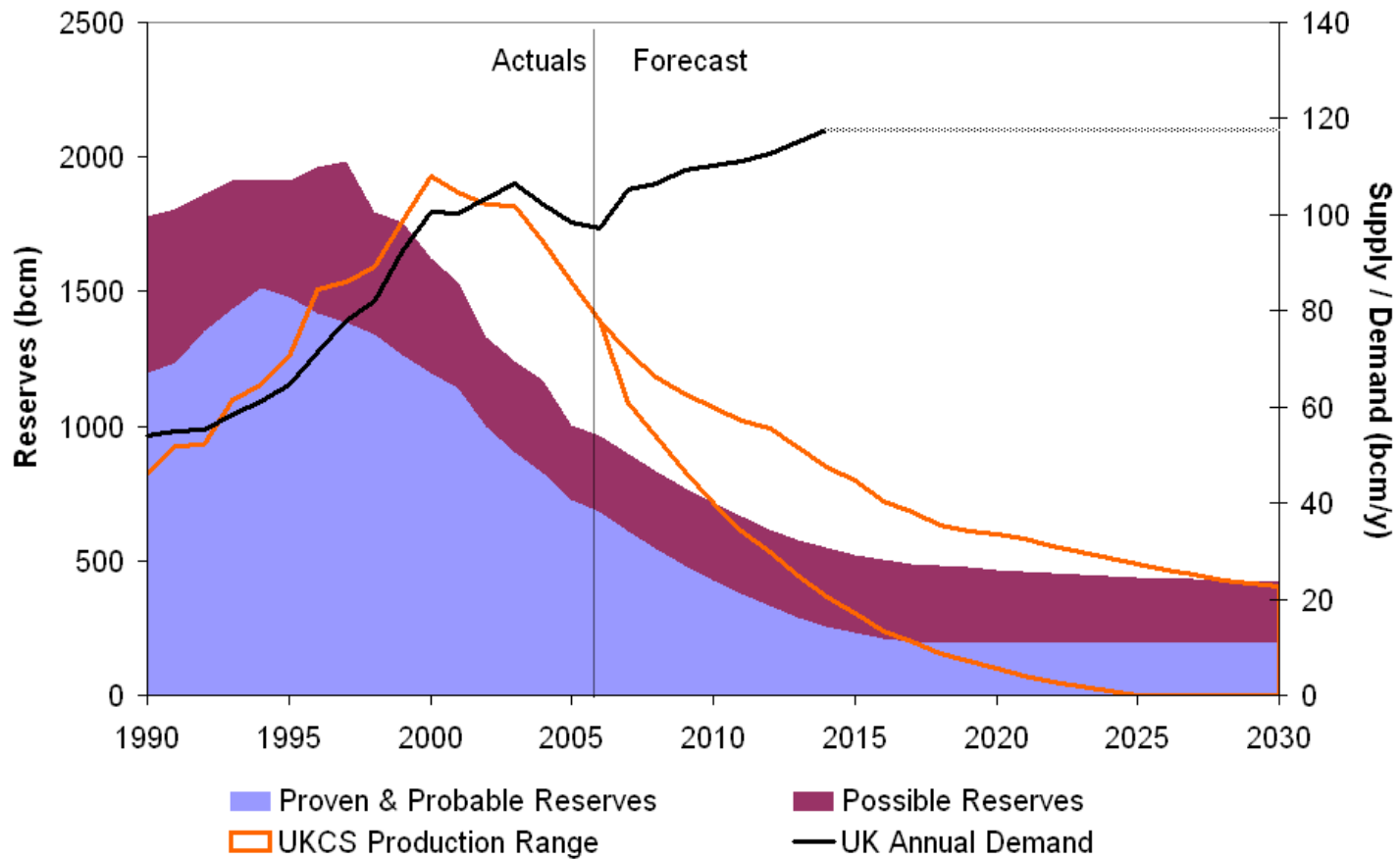
**Gas  
Infra-  
structure**

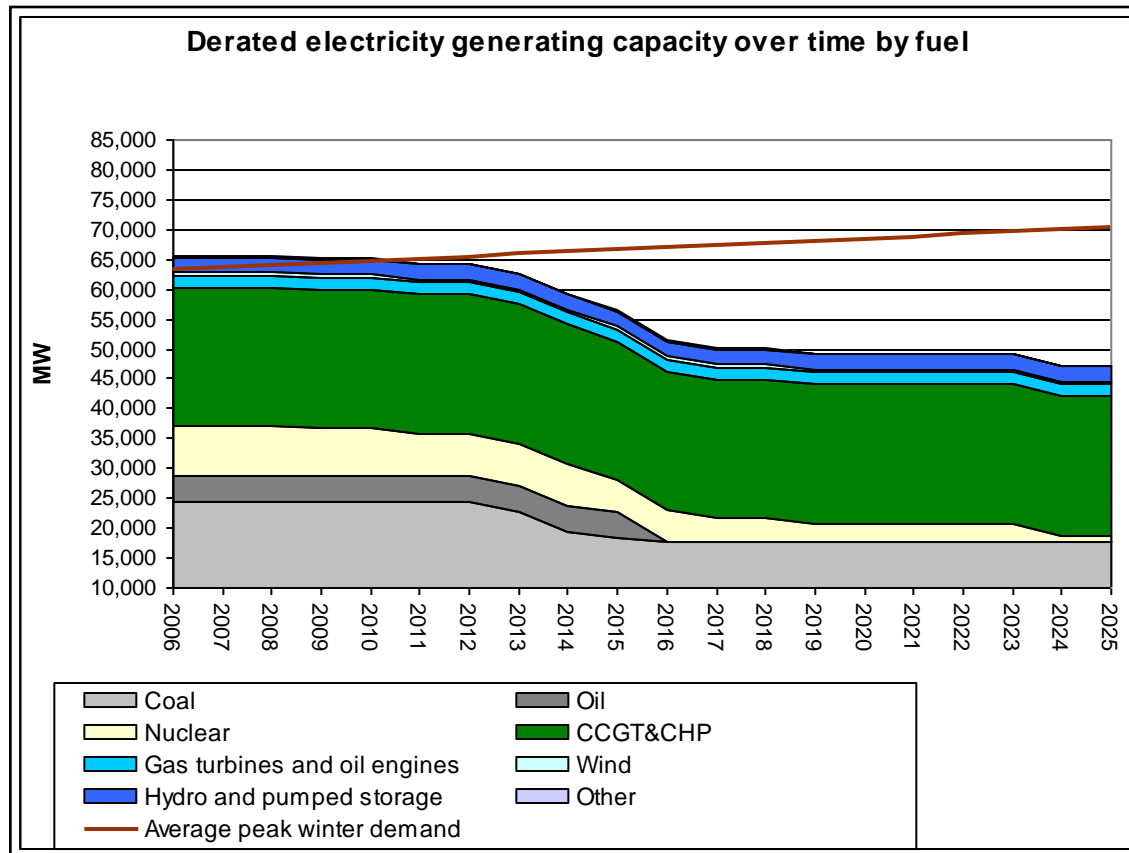
**Nuclear**

**Electricity Networks (cross-cutting)**

- Power stations above 50 megawatts (100MWs offshore)
- Major gas infrastructure projects
- Works ancillary to a major development
- Bigger gas pipes and electricity lines

- Consultation on NPSs and Parliamentary scrutiny of them
- Duties around sustainable development and Climate Change
- Right to be heard at inquiry
- Accountability of IPC
- Making new system and IPC effective





- Energy infrastructure will remain controversial regardless of planning reform
- Tension between policy objectives
- Uncertainty over rate at which technologies will develop
- Very significant volumes of renewables needed
- Need to re-arrange the grid