

Wylfa New Build Project Liaison Group (PLG)

MINUTES

Minutes of the Wylfa New Build Project Liaison Group held on Thursday 15th November 2012 at 5:00pm in the Wylfa Power Station Sports and Social Club.

Attendees (in alphabetical order by organisation):

Organisation	Name	Surname
Anglesey Agricultural Society	John	Chamberlain
Bangor University	Kimberley	Jones
Bodorgan Trust	Melanie	Wymer
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)	Gwynne	Morris-Jones
Clough & Co	Gwilym	Williams
Coleg Menai	Wyn	Thomas
Country Land and Business Association	Richard	Humphreys
Department for Work and Pensions	Damian	Hamilton
Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water	Angela	Meadows
Environment Agency Wales	Iwan	Williams
Isle of Anglesey County Council	Cllr Bob	Parry
Isle of Anglesey County Council Councillor for Llanbadrig	Cllr Williams	Thomas-Hughes
Llanbadrig Community Council	Anthony	Hughes
Llanbadrig Community Council	Elfed	Jones
Llaneilian Community Council	Helen	Woodcock
Llannerch y Medd Community Council	John	Jukes
Menter Mechell	Jac	Jones
Morgan Evans	Ann	Jones
Morgan Evans	Simon	Jones
National Farmers Union Wales	Will	Edwards
National Trust Wales	Richard	Williams
Public Health Wales	Sue	Andrews
Taran Disability	Aled	Roberts
Tref Alaw Community Council	Anna	M Jones
Tref Alaw Community Council	Trevor	Jones
Welsh Government	Gareth	Hall
Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones	Callum	Gaskell
Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones	Jean	Jones
Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones	Gemma	Roebuck

Members of the public / Magnox

	Hayden	Davies
	Derek	Gadsdon
	Iorwerth	Gray-Parry
	John	Jones
	Steve	Roberts
	Alwyn	Pritchard
	Gwilym	Jones
	Mark	Thornton
Magnox	Richard	Cowell
Magnox	Paul	Dundee
Magnox	Tracy	Gaskell
Magnox	Lisa	Morgan
Magnox	John	Rowlands
Magnox	Lowri	Jones
Magnox	Judy	Turner
Magnox	Martin	Turner
Magnox	Stuart	Law
Magnox	Fred	Brooks
Magnox	Andrew	McAteer

Apologies

Age Well Amlwch	Delyth	Jones
Isle of Anglesey County Councillor for Parc a'r Mynydd	J V	Owen
Anglesey Energy Island Programme	John Idris	Jones
Chartered Surveyor	Elfed	Williams
Chief Executive of Ynys Môn County Council	Richard Parry	Jones
Cwmni Cemaes Cyf	Eric	Torr

Isle of Anglesey County Council – Head of HR	Carys	Edwards
Llaneilian (and Chair of Wylfa SSG)	Aled Morris	Jones
Local Welsh Assembly Member	Ieuan Wyn	Jones
Member of Parliament	Albert	Owen
Member of the Public	Mel	O’Hara
Menter Môn	Gerallt	Jones
MP for Conwy	Guto	Bebb
MP for Dwyfor Meirionnydd	Elfyn	Llwyd
NSA – Nuclear	Alli	Hunt
Representative of Anglesey County Council	Dylan	Williams
Tourism Partnership North Wales	Andrew	Forfar
Ynys Môn Citizen’s Advice Bureau	Jackie	Blackwell
Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern	Irfon	Morris

If your name has been inadvertently missed from this list or recorded inaccurately, please contact Horizon on 0800 954 9516 or at wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com.

1 Welcome from the Chair

The Chairman, Dennis Evans (DE), welcomed everyone to the meeting in the Sports and Social Club, stating that this was the ‘end of the beginning’ following the news of Horizon Nuclear Power’s forthcoming purchase by Hitachi. He also welcomed Charlie Tasker (CT), Director of Project Development, and Ed Hodge (EH) Project Developer, in the absence of Alan Smith (AS), Head of Site Development, who had another commitment.

2 Apologies and Minutes

Apologies were received and the minutes of the last PLG meeting (27th September 2012) were agreed as a true and accurate record of events and approved by members.

3 Matters arising from previous meeting

- DE stated that since the September PLG, National Grid had launched its consultation into addressing capacity issues and network improvements in North Wales. As a

result, DE had invited National Grid to attend the meeting and Gareth Williams, Lead Project Manager at National Grid, would be available to answer general questions about the project.

- Following concerns raised at the September PLG, DE highlighted a note in the September minutes stating that Horizon had been in contact with a group of A5025 residents twice since March to offer updates on the project and one-to-one meetings if needed.

4 Update on agreed purchase of Horizon Nuclear Power by Hitachi – Charlie Tasker, Director of Project Development, Horizon Nuclear Power

- CT thanked everyone for their support throughout 2012 and after Hitachi's recent announcement.
- Since the announcement, Horizon and Hitachi had been delighted with the response locally and nationally. Prime Minister David Cameron had welcomed Hitachi to the UK energy sector and local political figures had offered their support to the project.
- CT said that 100 jobs had been secured as a result of Hitachi's purchase. All staff would be transferred from the previous owners to the new owners on completion of the sale at the end of November.
- CT explained that Hitachi's proposal was to develop between 5,200 MW and 7,800 MW of new generation capacity across both Wylfa and Oldbury. While it was difficult to give detail on timescales, CT said more information would be made available in early 2013.
- CT said the role of new nuclear was still vital to the UK economy. The country needs 60 GW of new capacity by 2025 and solutions must be low carbon and sustainable. Hitachi has committed to this and is proposing to support up to 12,000 new jobs during construction and thousands more highly skilled roles once both nuclear power stations are operational.
- CT explained that Horizon was formed in January 2009 as a joint venture between E.ON UK and RWE npower, but on 29th March 2012 they announced their intention to withdraw from the UK nuclear programme. Horizon was put up for sale and on 30th October, following a sales process held over the summer, Hitachi announced an agreement to purchase Horizon as a going concern. CT explained the sale would be completed by the end of November. *Post meeting note: The sale process completed on 23rd November 2012 and more information can be found at www.horizonnuclearpower.com*
- CT said that Horizon remains the developer for both Wylfa and Oldbury and will also be the operator of the new nuclear power stations. Horizon is responsible for

securing site licences and development consent at both sites. Hitachi will be the shareholder and technology provider and will form a delivery team for the construction phase.

- CT explained that Hitachi is committed to UK investment and has also signed Memorandums of Understanding with both Rolls Royce and Babcock International Group to provide skills and technology to the project.
- CT said that detailed meetings would be held with Hitachi following the completion of the sales process and more information would be made available in early 2013.

5 Project and site development update – Ed Hodge in the absence of Alan Smith, Head of Site Development, Horizon Nuclear Power

- In the absence of AS, EH gave an overview of site development work and activity that was currently ongoing.
- EH explained that Horizon would be working closely with Hitachi to assess options for the site development strategy in order to bring forward a detailed programme of work in the near future.
- EH said that Hitachi was proposing to develop either two or three new reactors at Wylfa. The expectation was that the first unit would be operational by the first half of the 2020s. EH explained that Horizon would continue to work with local stakeholders and residents to keep them up to date with the project.
- EH explained that Hitachi would be the technology provider at Wylfa and Oldbury and was proposing the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) for development. The ABWR is the only advanced Generation 3+ reactor that is operational anywhere in the world. All four operational ABWR units have been completed to time and cost, and unit six at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa in West Japan was completed in 37 months. EH said the ABWR is licensed in Japan, Taiwan and the USA and Hitachi will submit the ABWR for Generic Design Assessment (GDA) approval in the UK. EH explained that site development and consenting activities will run in parallel to the GDA.
- EH said that local site development activities have been ongoing and offshore surveys are still taking place. Work is also underway to remove an empty, boarded-up house and several outbuildings, abandoned caravans and barns which have become unsafe. This work will complete by mid-December and local residents have been made aware of this activity. *Post meeting note: The demolition works completed in mid-December.*
- EH also said that Horizon had continued to carry out improvement works to habitable properties in order to make sure they meet the needs of current and future tenants.

- EH explained that health and safety was extremely important and signs had been placed close to Wylfa Head to warn people of the steep cliffs. EH said no serious incidents had taken place but the signs were important in warning of potential dangers.
- EH said that Horizon's National Grid connection agreement remains in place and that it is important people attend the consultations currently taking place across Anglesey and North Wales.
- Local community engagement is also ongoing, and EH said the Horizon team supported a Low Carbon Career Opportunities event at Bangor University for students in years 9 to 12. EH said it was a very positive event that generated some good questions from young people.
- EH also explained that Horizon's monthly Open Surgeries are ongoing. The next two surgeries would take place between 1pm and 7pm on Monday 19th November and Monday 17th December at Cemaes Village Hall. *Post meeting note: Dates have been booked up until March 2013 and local people have been made aware through the December 2012 Community Update newsletter.*
- DE thanked EH and said that enthusiasm amongst Horizon staff for the project is clear and they were rising to the challenge. DE welcomed any questions.

Q&A

- Michael Dodds (MD) asked how the project could be delivered in four years as it appears very fast.
 - CT explained it is possible to complete the building in less than four years and Hitachi is very proud of that achievement. CT said this is one of the advantages of ABWR technologies because they can be developed in modules at different places in the UK before being transported to site.
- Gwynne Morris Jones (GMJ) from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) stated that National Grid was only considering options across Anglesey for new connections. GMJ asked Horizon to give consideration to the matter as connections could be made along the seabed between Wylfa and Deeside – especially for the Celtic Array project.
 - CT replied that regular meetings are held with National Grid and Celtic Array who are developing offshore wind turbines. These meetings are designed to discuss options, structural issues, and how to accommodate the construction work for new connections. CT acknowledged it was a complex project.

- Melanie Wymer (MW) from the Bodorgan Trust asked whether the change in reactor design would affect the total number of units produced and what the timescales for development would now be.
 - CT replied that meetings were being held to discuss this and a lot of activity can be expected in early 2013 to establish project timelines.
 - CT said that either two or three reactors would be built at each site – which was what was proposed by the former owners - but the total output would differ due to the different technology now being proposed.
 - CT said a lot was still to be discussed and more information would be made available in 2013.

- Jac Jones (JJ), Mentor Mechell, said that Mechell Community Council had concluded that National Grid's consultation was not wide enough as it did not show all the available options. He noted they would seek advice on the matter through One Voice Wales and felt it important that Horizon was made aware of the fact they were unhappy with the consultation.
 - DE thanked JJ and asked Gareth Williams from National Grid (GW) to respond to the point.
 - GW thanked DE and the PLG for the invitation. GW explained that National Grid had tried to work out the best options for connection across Anglesey and North Wales having looked at on and off-shore options. Having assessed many different options and planning guidelines, it was decided the Wylfa to Pentir option was considered National Grid's Preliminary Preferred Option.
 - GW emphasised it was important people fed back their comments to National Grid and the first question on the feedback form asked whether people agreed with the preferred option.
 - GW encouraged people to attend the National Grid exhibitions or visit the consultation website.

- DE referred back to GMJ's statement about Celtic Array's offshore wind development in the Irish Sea and encouraged PLG members to attend Celtic Array's own consultation on the Rhiannon Wind Farm.
 - GW stated that Celtic Array's project timescales were undecided and if plans changed significantly, National Grid would need to look again at its proposals.

- GMJ said he had attended a National Grid consultation in Llangefni where he had asked about the difference in cost between the Wylfa to Pentir option and a direct connection from Wylfa to Deeside using the seabed. GMJ stated that an undersea option would cost around £1 billion and this would result in £1 being added to each consumer's annual electricity bill over 40 years - a small price to pay for the area's landscape, especially on the Menai Straits. He stated that existing power generation on Anglesey could use the existing network and that the offshore wind farms could

use a seabed connection. He was worried that National Grid was not consulting widely enough on alternative options.

- GW replied that it was undecided how energy from the wind farms would come onshore at this stage – that was still being looked at.
 - He stated that it was also important to note that National Grid had not decided the new connection would be overhead all the way and there were options for undergrounding. GW said there were costs associated with this but it was important for people to take time to offer National Grid feedback.
 - GMJ asked whether the £1 figure was correct
 - Mark Cooper (MC), also representing National Grid, replied the costs were about right, but there were many energy projects happening across the UK which could add to the consumer's bill. National Grid also had to take these into account.
 - DE explained that National Grid's Strategic Options Report, which includes information about cost, is available online. He also encouraged everyone to take part in the consultation.
- MW asked what would happen if the capacity increased again in the future and whether it was likely a third line would be needed. She asked what the maximum capacity was.
 - GW replied that Greenwire and the Skerries project did not form part of this project so would not have an impact on capacity. He stated that the project was designed to handle 3.6 GW of new nuclear and 2 GW of wind, but didn't have the figures for maximum capacity. GW agreed to feed this back to the group.
 - Lisa Morgan (LM) from Magnox asked whether it would be possible to engage more closely with schools and young people about new jobs.
 - DE replied that this was an excellent idea and that the PLG already invited schools, the Young Farmers Club and representatives of young people from the Isle of Anglesey County Council to take part. He stated he was working with Horizon to do as much as possible.
 - Kimberley Jones (KJ) asked whether younger children – 11 – 12 year olds - were being engaged with as well as those considering their career choices.
 - Richard Foxhall (RF), Stakeholder Relations Manager for Horizon Nuclear Power, replied that up until the shareholder announcement in March, Horizon had worked with schools to promote careers in the sector. RF explained the level of engagement had been reduced but will increase again.
 - RF said contact had been made with Careers Wales and a meeting had been arranged to look at next steps for engagement. He said that it was important that Horizon engaged with children of all ages.
 - RF emphasised that the new power station would offer a range of career opportunities, not just engineering or scientific.

- LM explained her aim was to encourage further engagement and was pleased with what has been happening.
- KJ asked whether there was an opportunity to build further links with Bangor University – beyond what is already happening.
 - CT said it was quite early in the project’s development, but felt it would be a priority to attract skilled people from Universities.
 - CT also said that Hitachi had met with Coleg Menai and the company was looking at identifying key skills needs for the future.
- Damian Hamilton (DH) from the Department for Work and Pensions offered his congratulations to Horizon. He noted STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects were not always popular and there’s a need to make them more engaging for children. He stated this was beginning to change but there is still much to be done. He said this was an exciting opportunity for people on Anglesey – especially young people.
- John Chamberlain (JC) asked whether it would be possible to improve the PA system in the future as it was difficult to hear what was being said.
- Will Edwards (WE) noted he had gone to the usual PLG meeting location and wanted to know why it had been moved. He asked the organisers to ensure a change of location is noted clearly in the future. He also expressed his surprise that National Grid wasn’t on the agenda and was disappointed by its consultation process. He stated he would like to see National Grid as an item on the agenda at the next meeting.
 - DE noted his and JC’s concerns.

6 Any Other Business and next meeting dates

- DE thanked everyone for attending and brought the meeting to a close at 6.15.