

## Wylfa New Build Project Liaison Group (PLG)

### MINUTES

Minutes of the Wylfa New Build Project Liaison Group held on Thursday 8th September 2011 at 5.30pm in Eleth and Eilian Rooms (Wylfa Learning and Development Centre).

#### Attendees

Organisation	Name	Surname
Public Health Wales	Sarah	Andrews
Canolfan Cynghori Ynys Mon / Citizens Advice Bureau	Jackie	Blackwell
Anglesey Agricultural Society / Rotary Club Anglesey	John	Chamberlain
National Grid	Gavin	Crook
Ynys Ynni Mon / Anglesey Energy Island	Sasha Wyn	Davies
National Grid	Graham	Denison-Smith
National Farmers' Union	Will	Edwards
Project Liaison Group	Dennis	Evans
Canolfan Cynghori Ynys Mon / Citizens Advice Bureau	Karen	Garrod
Job Centre Plus	Damien	Hamilton
Cyngor Cymuned Llanbadrig	Anthony	Hughes
Cyngor Cymuned Llanfaethlu	Cllr Kenneth P	Hughes
Cyngor Cymuned Llanbadrig	Cllr William T	Hughes
National Skills Academy for	Alli	Hunt

Nuclear		
Chair of the Wylfa SSG	Cllr Aled Morris	Jones
Cyngor Cymuned Mechell	Jac	Jones
Cyngor Cymuned Llanbadrig	Elfed	Jones
Ymgyrch Diogelu Cymru Wledig / Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales	Gwynne Morris	Jones
Magnox	John Idris	Jones
Magnox	Lowri	Jones
Cyngor Sir Ynys Mon	Cllr Thomas H	Jones
Cyngor Cymuned Llannerch y Medd	John	Jukes
Llanbadrig Community Council	Allan	Kerry
National Grid	Martin	Kinsey
Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)	Mannon	Lewis
Dwr Cymru	Angela	Meadows
Cyngor Sir Ynys Mon	J.V.	Owen
Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)	Mike	Pigott
Cyngor Sir Ynys Mon	Ian	Roberts
Amlwch Town Council	Val	Roberts
Llanfachraeth Community Council	Bleddyn	Rowlands

Cyngor Cymuned Llanerchymedd	Cllr Elwyn	Schofield
Bangor University	Paul	Spencer
Friends of the Earth	David	Stephenson
Coleg Menai	Wyn	Thomas
Cwmni Cemaes Cyf	Eric	Torr
Morgan Evans	Gwilym	Williams
Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru	Heidi	Williams
Ynys Mon Conservative Party	Paul	Williams
ERW Chartered Surveyors	Elfed	Williams
National Trust Wales	Richard	Williams
Environment Agency Wales	Iwan	Williams
Cyngor Cymuned Llanelian	Helen	Woodcock
Bodorgan Trust Company	Melanie	Wymer
<b>Members of the public</b>		
	Mr	O'Hara
	Kimberley	Jones
<b>Apologies</b>		
Wylfa Retirees Association	Tom	Conway
Yngor Sir Ynys Mon (Chief Executive)	Richard Parry	Jones
Ynys Mon Welsh Assembly Member	Ieuan Wyn	Jones

Young Farmers Club	Ellen	Jones
Ysgol Uwchradd David Hughes	Dr Brian	Jones
Member of Parliament	Albert	Owen
Communities First	Jenny	Whiston
Funky Dragon – Young People’s Assembly for Wales	Bethan	Williams

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](mailto:wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com).

**1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair, Dennis Evans (DE), welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received.

**2 APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were a true and accurate record.

**3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Item 11 - The Chair has discussed Councillor Tom Jones’ request that the topics of the Weightman Report should be covered in more detail at a future PLG with Horizon Nuclear Power. An appropriate speaker will be agreed for the next meeting.
- DE also confirmed he had attended the Steering Group meeting of Horizon’s Health Impact Assessment (HIA). DE would ensure that the HIA would be on a future PLG agenda.

**4 NEW BUILD PROJECT UPDATE**

- Alan Smith (AS), Head of Site Development, provided an update presentation on Horizon and its New Build Project at Wylfa. He began by giving an overview of the situation in Germany. The recent changes in Germany’s nuclear policy have had a negative effect on both EON and RWE’s revenues. However, both stakeholders have taken steps to deal with this issue. They have released statements that they will continue with developments in the UK.
- The project reached an important milestone on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011 when the Nuclear National Policy Statement was designated by Parliament. Wylfa was on the list of suitable sites for a nuclear new build.

- The UK Government is considering the Electricity Market Reform (EMR). A level playing field is required to provide a low carbon future for the UK. A long term stable initiative is required to encourage investment.
- AS explained that Horizon is coming to the end of the process for choosing the consortium and reactor technology. They are focusing on the Westinghouse 1100 MW AP 1000 reactors and Areva 1600 MW EPR reactors. The final decision on the technology will be made towards the end of the year, which will allow the outputs of the Weightman Report to be considered.
- The formal consultation process is expected to start in early 2012. A second stage will be held approximately a year later. It is anticipated that the Development Consent Order (effectively the planning application for the project) will be submitted in autumn 2013.
- During 2011 Horizon has continued to progress with the Environmental Impact Assessment Baseline surveys and site development studies, such as considering new water cooling options. Horizon will also publish its Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) which sets out the framework for Horizon's community consultations.
- AS presented a map showing that the development could be closer to the sea, and therefore further away from Tregle and Cemaes. In doing so, there may be no need to move the 400kV overhead cable and the site of the current power station will not be affected by the construction work.
- AS explained there is a need to acquire more land (on a temporary and permanent basis) and Horizon has appointed a land agent to make initial enquiries with landowners regarding land adjacent to Wylfa. The same land agents will also be contacting landowners to arrange for Horizon to undertake environmental surveys on land outside of its ownership.
- AS confirmed the PLG website is now accessible. The minutes, agendas and presentations of PLG meetings will be posted on the website.
- Councillor WT Hughes expressed surprise that Horizon was looking for more land. He expressed concern for the people of Tregle and the value of their properties if Wylfa's boundary crept closer to the village.
- AS responded by saying he understood those concerns and confirmed that the main construction could be further away from Tregle than previously communicated, which could reduce visual and noise impacts. Horizon are also aiming to develop a hardship policy that where appropriate addresses impacts on nearby residents affected by the development.

**POST MEETING NOTE:** Horizon is entering into a PPA (Planning Performance Agreement) with Isle of Anglesey County Council. This agreement commits finance and resource from Horizon to ensure the council is able to meet its additional obligations to scrutinise and consider the project without adversely affecting its day-to-day responsibilities.

## **5 UPDATE ON THE YNYS YNNI MON / ENERGY ISLAND PROJECT**

- Sasha Wyn Davies (SWD), Project Director for Anglesey Council, gave an update and overview of the Energy Island Project (EIP) explaining the programme aims to establish Anglesey as a world-renowned centre of excellence for the production of sustainable low carbon energy. SWD outlined key energy developments on Anglesey, including biomass, nuclear and off-shore wind.
- SWD emphasised that the Council were firmly behind the nuclear new build project and that it is important the local area benefits. SWD also reiterated that the programme will ensure there is no adverse impact on the Welsh language by undertaking language impact assessments.
- Will Edwards (WE) stated it was important to consider all energy projects on the island as a whole, rather than allow a large array of micro-generation technologies across Anglesey.

## **6 COLEG MENAI UPDATE**

- Wyn Thomas (WT), Vice Principal of Coleg Menai, gave a presentation on the new Coleg Menai Energy Centre and the Menai Apprenticeship Company.
- WT explained that the new £6 million centre offers specialist courses for 150 young people so that they are fully trained to work in the energy industry. The centre has some of the most developed and innovative welding and construction facilities in Wales, and has been partly funded by the NDA and is also supported by Magnox.
- WT gave an introduction to the Menai Apprenticeship Company – Cwmni Prentis Menai. The company was established as a charity in August 2011 and is wholly managed by Coleg Menai. The intention is to increase the number of apprentices throughout North Wales, and on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 30 apprentices and 10 employers had registered.
- The company is funded by Horizon, Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council. The County Councils each contribute £30k and Horizon contributes £90k. WT thanked John Idris Jones (Magnox) and AS for their support.
- DS reiterated that he was glad to hear the good news about opportunities for our young people.

- Melanie Wymer (MW) asked what level of National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) is taught in the centre. WT answered that the company offered qualifications up to level 5.
- Councillor Elwyn Schofield (ES) asked how many of the apprentices were from Anglesey. WT didn't know the exact figure. He said that the majority lived on Anglesey but it included those from further afield, such as Arfon. WT was asked to contact ES to provide the exact figures.

## **7 THE NATIONAL GRID AND THE NORTH WALES CONNECTION PROJECT**

- Martin Kinsey (MK), Senior Project Manager, National Grid, gave the final presentation. MK explained that National Grid owns and maintains the high-voltage electricity transmission system in England and Wales, balancing supply with demand on a minute by minute basis, and managing the transfer system of high pressure gas in Britain. In accordance with the Electricity Act 1989, the National Grid is duty bound to develop an efficient and effective electricity transmission system.
- MK explained that 60 GW of electricity is the peak that is generated in the UK at present. A number of power stations are due to close in the next 5-10 years but the demand for energy is increasing. It is estimated that a further 20GW of generation will be needed by 2020.
- MK explained the different electricity transmission options such as overhead lines, underground cables, and Gas Insulated Lines (GIL). It is also possible to transmit electricity underwater but for significant distances it is normally converted from AC to DC, requiring a rectification / inverter station and transformers at each end.
- At present, overhead lines carry the electricity from Wylfa, to Pentir and then on to Deeside. This system will need to be expanded to carry some 5.6mw - 3.6mw nuclear and 2.0mw off -shore wind power. The existing Anglesey overhead double circuit is restricted to carrying a maximum of 1.8GW. Another double circuit transmission system is required to carry the future load requirement from Wylfa to Pentir.
- MK explained that National Grid is currently evaluating the different options and has recently started discussing the options with the planning authorities. They intend to develop and publish a report so that local people can give feedback on the options. National Grid will then consider the route, the site and the environmental impact. National Grid will consult every step of the way and will also hold discussions with local landowners. The final step will be to submit a planning application.
- National Grid recently conducted a survey in Anglesey which showed that a lot of people were not aware of its role. Therefore, National Grid will publish a newsletter in the autumn to raise awareness about the project and will launch a formal consultation next year.

- DE asked MK to provide factsheets on his presentation.
- A question was asked about the grant that Ofgem had given to the Grid to develop the route from Wylfa to Pembrokeshire. MK answered that this energy route was one of a number of possible options. The grant will fund a feasibility study.
- Will Edwards (WE) expressed concern that the overhead lines were unattractive and the agricultural community would object to the construction of more pylons. He asked whether it would be possible to run these cables under the sea and what the restrictions were. MK answered that running the cables underwater was possible but there was a restriction of 2GW on one cable. It is possible to install 4 or more cables to transmit the energy. MK appreciated the agricultural community's concerns and reiterated that National Grid will consider all views.
- Councillor Aled Morris Jones (AMJ) asked whether there was a timetable for the work. MK answered that the timescale would depend on the technical option that is chosen. Construction would take about five years.
- John Chamberlain (JC) asked whether the current pylons could be adapted to carry a larger load and if a new system was built, what would happen to the old pylons. Gavin Crook (GC) answered that the overhead cables that currently exist cannot carry more power and a new connection must be installed. However, it is important to maintain the current equipment that exists before building new systems. MK reiterated that modern pylons are of a very high standard and are rust-resistant.
- It was asked why energy from Wylfa could not be transmitted to Deeside. MK answered National Grid is looking at all the different options in detail.
- There was a question about why the energy generated by the offshore wind farm was being transmitted to Wylfa and not to Merseyside. MK answered that they are looking at all reasonable options.
- Roger Williams (RW) asked whether the current transmission system will remain in situ. MK answered that the current system will remain but that it has reached its capacity.

## **8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- No other business.

## **9 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

- The date of the next meeting (10<sup>th</sup> November) will be circulated to members in due course.
- DE thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting was closed at 7.45pm.

*For more general project information or to ask Horizon any questions, please contact the team on 0800 954 9516 or at [wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com](mailto:wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com) and visit [www.horizonnuclearpower.com](http://www.horizonnuclearpower.com)*

*You can access these minutes and all the presentations from the PLG meeting via [www.wylfaplq.com](http://www.wylfaplq.com)*