

Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group (PLG)

MINUTES

Minutes of the Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group held on Tuesday 12 April 2016 in the Eleth and Eilian rooms.

Attendees (in alphabetical order by organisation):

Name	Organisation
Aled Morris Jones	Twrcelyn
Anna M Jones	Tref Alaw Community Council
Bleddyn Rowlands	Llanfachraeth Community Council
Bryan Owen	Former leader of Ynys Mon County Council
Clifford Everett	Holyhead Town Council
Cllr Dafydd Rhys Thomas	Ynys Gybi
Dennis Evans	Chair
Elfed Jones	Llanbadrig Community Council
Enid Williams	Isle of Anglesey Youth Service
Eric Torr	Cwmni Cemaes Cyf/ Ynni Talybolion
Eurwyn Hughes	Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern
Gavin Crook	National Grid
Geraint Hughes	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Gwynne Morris Jones	Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
Gwynne Evans	Young Farmers Cymru
Henry Aron	Natural Resources Wales
Cllr Ieuan Williams	Leader of IACC - Lligwy
Iwan Williams	Natural Resources Wales
Jac Jones	Mechell Community Council
Jackie Blackwell	Ynys Môn – Citizen Advice Bureau
Cllr Jeffrey M Evans	Ynys Gybi
Cllr John Griffith	Talybolion
Cllr Kenneth P Hughes	Talybolion
Lowri Joyce	Hitachi
Margaret Thomas	Ynys Môn – Citizen Advice Bureau
Mark Thornton	North Wales Community Health Council Chair – Ynys Môn Committee
Paddy McNaught	Unite the Union
Cllr Richard Owain Jones	Twrcelyn
Rhiannon Morgan	Young Farmers Cymru
Robin Beckman	Head of Nuclear Sector & Energy Programmes
Sarah Andrews	Public Health Wales
Stuart Law	Magnox Ltd.
Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Trevor Howes	CNC- Stakeholder Liaison Officer

Cllr William Thomas Hughes	Twrcelyn
Members of the public	
Elfed Williams	
Gwilym Williams	

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Rt Hon Albert Owen MP	Member of Parliament for Ynys Môn
Aled Roberts AM	Welsh Assembly Regional Member for North Wales
Alli Hunt	Nuclear Skills Academy for Nuclear
Alun Roberts	Môn CF
Anwen Morgan	Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern
Carys Edwards	Head of HR Isle of Anglesey County Council
Lord Dafydd Elis Thomas AM	Welsh Assembly member for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Delyth Jones	Agewell Amlwch
Janet Finch Saunders AM	Welsh Assembly member for Conwy
Rt Hon Liz Saville Roberts MP	Member of Parliament for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Cllr Llinos Medi Huws	Talybolion
Llio Johnson	Anglesey and Gwynedd Partnership
Maurice Core	NDA Site Representative for Wylfa Power Station
Melanie Wymer	Bodorgan Trust
Philip Clark	Country Land and Business Association
Steve Graham	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Will Edwards	National Farmers Union
Members of the public	
Michael Dodds	

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.

For general project information or to ask Horizon any questions, please contact the team on 0800 954 9516 or at wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com and visit www.horizonnuclearpower.com

You can access these minutes and all the presentations from the PLG meeting via www.wylfaplg.com

1. Welcome from the chair – Dennis Evans

- The Chairman, Dennis Evans (DE), welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting – Dennis Evans

- DE went through the minutes of the last meeting (15th December 2015) and they were agreed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

3. Matters arising – Dennis Evans

- There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Wylfa Newydd Project Progress update – Greg Evans

- **DE** invited **Greg Evans (GE)**, Site Operations Director, Horizon Nuclear Power to provide an update on the progress of the project to date.
- **DE** referred to a comment made in the news regarding whether the nuclear industry had a future in Britain, and asked **GE** to comment on this. In response **GE** stated that the industry did have a future; it was not a unanimously supported industry but it was one which continues to exist and is based on proven technology. It is not an easy field - because of the huge amount of work such projects entail and the capital costs involved before a final investment decision can be made. He was confident that the nuclear industry does have a future in Anglesey due, in part, to its ideal location.
- **GE** then moved on to give his presentation, stating that the past 9 months had seen Horizon change the way in which it organised its business delivery. It now encompasses three clear streams – business development, power station delivery and generation readiness. Horizon is already 50% of the way through its transition to this way of working.
- **GE** went on to discuss job creation and gave an update on recent appointments:
 - **Duncan Hawthorne** has been appointed CEO and **GE** mentioned some of his past work, including Bruce Power, an 8 unit nuclear power station which he had transformed over the course of his tenure.
 - **Sasha Wynn Davies** has been appointed Head of Strategic Development (Wales) as from 1st May. She will be working with **GE** to co-ordinate and solidify strategic developments.
 - Three local appointments had taken place recently - site engineer, training instructor and operations engineer (all from Magnox). These were to be joined soon by a commercial manager.
 - Interviews were underway for a community involvement officer who would be dealing with socioeconomic development.
 - Horizon is also interviewing for Head of Operations (initially Gloucester based) and planning to create a Head of Engineering role.
 - Jobs continue to be advertised online – via the Horizon website – and in north Wales newspapers for Wylfa-based roles.
 - The site office is being expanded to host 80 members of staff and will include a meeting room and training facility.



- The next part of his presentation was an update on developments in education and training which included the following:
 - The Technical Apprenticeship Scheme had been launched in February, offering up to 12 places. Horizon had received over 250 applications and was now in the process of shortlisting.
 - The Graduate Development Scheme had also been launched recently, offering 6 places based both at head office and at the Wylfa Newydd Site Office. Horizon had received over 200 applications.
 - Horizon is still working closely with schools in the context of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects and part of Sasha's work would be to extend Horizon's reach into schools.
- **GE** ended his presentation with an update on the community involvement element of the project:
 - 11 events had been held over the last 3 months, which were attended by hundreds of local people.
 - More recently a series of youth events had been held, targeting groups in Primary and Secondary Schools and in Universities.
 - Horizon continues to hold Open Surgeries and other community events, including sponsoring the charity golf tournament at Bull Bay Golf Club in May.
 - £60,000 had been donated to local charities in the past year, and more had been approved today.

Questions:

- **Gwynne Morris Jones** (CPRW) referred to a recent report which said that it was very unlikely that Wylfa Newydd was going to be completed. He asked what was the basis of the BBC report?
 - **GE** responded that it had originated from an individual connected to the Green Party in France/Germany and although it included reasoned descriptions of the challenges, he did not know how the author had come to the conclusion he had. It did not point out anything that Horizon was not already aware of.
- **Dr Tom Conway** noted that he had complained to the BBC.
- In a similar vein, **Cllr Jeff Evans** noted that he had been asked by the media to comment on whether Wylfa Newydd had a future. Reports such as the above and those seen on the news had sparked a lot of questions and he was keen to know what could be done to alleviate concerns. He suggested that it might be beneficial for Horizon to make a statement addressing this issue.
 - **Leon Flexman** said that many positive announcements about Wylfa Newydd Project had been made in press releases since this matter had arisen. He also commented said it was unlikely this would be the last news story of its type as stories like this were to be expected on a major infrastructure project. He said Horizon would continue to put out positive messages because people - and young people especially - need to have confidence the Project will continue.

5. Site Development Project Update - Charlie Tasker



- **Charlie Tasker (CT)**, Director of Project Development, Horizon Nuclear Power, gave an update regarding activity on site now and in the next few months, including the following:
- Site Office Expansion:
 - Work on expanding the site office had begun in February. Specialists **Elliotts** had been employed to undertake the work, along with local contractor, **DU Construction**.
 - The existing site office is already at capacity but the new space would allow for up to 80 members of staff. **CT** expected the work to be completed during summer by June.
- Survey Work:
 - Significant surveys continue to be undertaken. The first phase of the archaeological evaluation (which is part of de-risking the construction phase of the project) has been completed.
 - Survey work is ongoing in respect of A5025 ground investigations and will continue until the end of April, followed by possible further detailed work.
 - Public rights of way, landscape and visual impact assessments are ongoing. **CT** said this could help facilitate the re-profiling of areas of land to provide visual mitigation of the Wylfa Newydd site.
 - Traffic and transport – **CT** said Horizon is still assessing its impact on the roads network and determining what mitigation could be needed. Horizon's second stage of pre-application consultation which will take place this year, will provide further enlightenment on this issue.
- Environment and ecology:
 - Upcoming survey work includes the preparation for further onshore ground investigation work to the south of site, which is underway. Offshore works were started October/November but suspended because of bad weather. This element is now about to be re-launched and offshore ground investigation works in the Porth-y-Pistyll area are planned for this summer.
- Utility upgrades:
 - **Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water** has completed their field work for the new water main.
 - The **SP Energy Networks** realignment project is ongoing since November last year and will end around June.
 - Horizon is working in partnership with individual companies to co-ordinate activities and keep residents up to date.
- Upcoming work:
 - It is essential to ensure the site is well maintained and ready for development. There are over 200 acres of land to manage, to include existing structures, access points, flora and fauna, grass cutting and ensuring tenants comply with necessary environmental restraints.



- Plans to relocate Magnox AECC (Alternative Emergency Control Centre) and DSL (District Survey Laboratory) are underway. The planning application for these works will be submitted towards the end of April.
- Supply Chain Opportunities:
 - As many local companies as possible are being employed.
 - Up to 15 local contractors are involved in GI/Structural Soils work.
 - 5 local businesses worked with Wessex Archaeology on archaeology works
 - Holyhead-based DU Construction is currently assisting Elliotts for the site office extension
 - Llanrhyddlad-based family-run catering business Y Tepot Pridd has secured the contract to provide a portable catering facility on site.

Questions

- Cllr Ken Hughes asked why Horizon is going so far off the proposed route of A5025 improvements for surveys?
 - In response, **CT** said that this could be for a number of reasons. For example, offline road improvements (i.e. new sections of road that Horizon is proposing) deviated to a greater or lesser extent from the path of the existing road and surveying areas either side of the proposed route could therefore mean the survey needed to be conducted some way from the existing road. It could also be the case that more extensive surveys are required when items of interest are found, for example the presence of great crested newts.
- Mr **Cliff Everett** from Holyhead Town Council asked what Horizon could do to encourage contractors to use local suppliers, for example steel?
 - In response, **CT** said this was a complex subject that would require a lot of consideration but the Project was absolutely committed to promoting the use of UK suppliers where possible.
- **Cllr Aled Morris Jones** commented that Wylfa Newydd would be the biggest construction project in Western Europe and that although it was not Horizon's responsibility, he hoped that Horizon would look at this issue in partnership with the Welsh Government, Hitachi and the UK Government. He also welcomed the fact that Horizon was considering potential impacts of the project on the road from its site to Amlwch and he looked forward to hearing more on this subject.
- Chairman **Dennis Evans** commented that the informal consultation regarding worker accommodation had now closed and asked whether **CT** had any information to share with the PLG regarding this.
 - In response, **CT** said that the feedback was still being analysed. Horizon needed to take into consideration all the information it had gathered and then use it to refine its plans ahead of its second period of pre-application consultation.
- **Councillor William Hughes** said that he was very pleased to see that specific sites were being looked at and impressed that smaller local companies were already winning work on the Project. He asked if there was some way that Horizon could support local businesses and help them tender successfully for work?

He also expressed concern regarding Cemaes School, and the children’s safety when heavy construction traffic would be in the area due to construction work. He was concerned that ‘rat runs’ would be created along local back roads by construction traffic.

- **CT** said that supporting local businesses is of key interest to Horizon and it is being looked at already.
 - **CT** was aware that an underpass existed near the school and he had asked his team to look at bringing it back into use.
- **Elfed Jones** of Llanbadrig Council noted that the underpass had been cleared, but was never opened. Also, this would not provide the answer for mothers with prams.
 - **CT** also asked for it to be noted that Horizon was proposing to provide a park and ride facility and that personal parking would be very limited at the site. Transport would also be arranged to bring people into work from the east of the island.
 - **Cllr John Griffith** said that there would be long delays caused by traffic lights etc during the A5025 improvements. This would lead to traffic diverting through Llannerch-y-medd and along roads which were totally unsuitable for such an increase in traffic volume.
 - **CT** said that Horizon was well aware of this issue and will put in place traffic management arrangements to prevent it happening.
 - **Cllr Richard Owain Jones** thanks CT for his comments
 - **Gwynne Morris Jones** asked if Horizon was aware that airships could now carry loads up to 200 tonnes. Had Horizon considered this for delivering large components to site?
 - **CT** said he would have concerns regarding the health and safety of this delivery method – but added that barges would be used to bring large components and bulk materials into the site via the proposed Marine Offloading Facility (MOLF). This would help minimise road movements.
 - **Dr Tom Conway** highlighted problems on Nanner Road (past the Jam Factory). It would need widening if it were necessary for it to accommodate large lorries. He asserted that the Jam Factory gets its deliveries of fruit via articulated lorries from Poland. There were only 3 lay-bys on the road to enable passing. The position was even worse on the other road (from Brynaber). While noting that IACC has responsibility for the road, he requested that Horizon look at improving the nearside Cemlyn Road by putting in more passing places, and looking at the ‘bottom end’ of the Cemlyn Road.
 - **CT** said this is something that would be looked at.

6. UK ABWR Generic Design Assessment Consultation – Iwan Williams

- **Iwan Williams** (IW), Energy Island Programme Manager, Natural Resources Wales gave a presentation on the role of NRW in this project. He said that much of NRW’s work involved providing guidance to Horizon on environmental conditions and needs.

- He noted NRW's main responsibilities i.e. Generic Design Assessment (GDA), environmental regulations, planning consultee, providing advice and guidance to the developer, working with regulatory partners and stakeholder engagement and consultations.
- **IW** proceeded to outline the main environmental permits that were relevant to the Wylfa Newydd project:
 - Site drainage – site preparation and clearance. Necessary for draining surface water from site
 - Radiological Substances Disposal Permit
 - Cooling water from reactors – permit needed due to the chemicals and heat involved
 - Combustion activity – generators on site
 - Marine License – any offshore construction work requires a license from the Environment Agency in order to assess environmental implications
 - Abstraction – disposal permit to reduce the level of groundwater on site
- **IW** moved on to Generic Design Assessment. Work had started on this in January 2013. It is an opportunity to assess the technology Horizon intend to use and whether any adaptations need to be made for use in the UK.
- **IW** then outlined the six stages involved in the Generic Environment Permitting Process:
 - Initiation
 - Initial assessment
 - Detailed assessment. This included 11 Technical Reports and assessments that were ongoing. It was hoped that this stage would be completed by the summer.
 - Consultation - autumn 2016. This would include consideration of how to secure the best possible opportunity for the public to give their input. It was hoped that it would be possible to arrange a meeting of this liaison group where NRW could give a presentation on the assessment. Drop-in sessions would also be arranged and feedback would be collected. IW asked the Chairman whether it would be possible to have input from this group when the consultation opens.
 - Post-consultation review
 - Decision and statement (end of 2017).

Questions:

- **Mr Jac Jones** from Mechell Community Council said that the council had been notified that they were a statutory consultee for the environmental assessment and needed to provide feedback. The Council was keen to do this but lacked the necessary expertise. Were NRW willing to give them the support they needed to understand the technical side of things?
- **Mr Elfed Jones** of Llanbadrig Community Council also requested support.
 - In response, **IW** said that the Agency were happy to attend a meeting with the council in order to provide guidance. It was suggested Llanbadrig Community Council and Mechell Community Council could both benefit from this sort of support from NRW.



- **Lowri Joyce** reminded members that Hitachi-GE had launched a website designed to support the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) process. People could submit questions via the website and receive responses.
 - **Cllr Aled Morris Jones** noted that Horizon had entered into a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) with the Isle of Anglesey County Council and that he felt Horizon needed to enter into a similar arrangement with Llanbadrig Community Council and Mechell Community Council too, so that they could respond appropriately to consultations.
 - **DE** requested that Llanbadrig Community Council and Mechell Community Council work together with NRW.
 - **Dr Tom Conway** requested a full copy of IW's presentation. **POST MEETING NOTE: A REPRESENTATIVE OF HORIZON HAS CONFIRMED TO MR CONWAY THAT ALL PLG PRESENTATIONS ARE UPLOADED TO THE PLG WEBSITE FOLLOWING EACH MEETING AND CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THERE.**
 - **Dr Tom Conway** also queried the complex permitting regime and asked whether it was the most efficient solution to have several different organisations responsible for consenting different aspects of the Wylfa Newydd Project.
 - **LF** said this was not unusual for major infrastructure projects and it meant the various aspects would be considered by the bodies best suited to giving advice and guidance in any given technical area.
 - **DE** asked how many NRW staff were currently focused on the Wylfa Newydd Project at present?
 - **IW** said there were eight full time staff working on the Wylfa Newydd Project currently and this would rise to around 20 full-time next year and stay at that level for at least the next 2 years. He said NRW were currently involved in around five meetings with Horizon each week.
- 7. AOB**
- **Lowri Joyce** gave a very brief verbal update on Hitachi activity.
 - **DE** asked her to provide this committee with a formal presentation in the next meeting highlighting the latest developments re Hitachi.

National Grid Update – Gavin Crook

- **Gavin Crook**, Lead Project Manager at National Grid, provided an update on National Grid activity:
 - National Grid had attended a number of consultation events with Horizon earlier in the year.
 - National Grid had received around 2,000 responses to their own consultation and were now analysing this feedback.
 - A feedback report would be published in the next couple of months, there would be further information events in the summer (including more information on the element of the National Grid project where it crosses the Menai Strait) and the next stage of formal consultation would take place at the end of the year.



- **Cllr Ieuan Williams** gave a brief update regarding the formal engagement framework between Horizon Nuclear Power and the Isle of Anglesey County Council. He said a lot of detailed information was now coming through and regular briefing sessions were taking place with Horizon. He said the relationship was good and working well.
- **Richard Foxhall**, Stakeholder Relations Manager reminded the meeting of the next Open Surgery to be held at 2.30pm in Amlwch Town Hall on Monday 18th April.

Close

The meeting closed at 7.00pm.