

## Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group Meeting

Minutes of the Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group held on Thursday 14 December 2017 in the Eleth and Eilian Rooms at the Wylfa Newydd site office.

### Attendees (in alphabetical order by organisation):

Name	Organisation
Dennis Evans	Chair, representative of Rhosybol Community Council
Wyn Thomas	Deputy Chair. Grŵp Llandrillo Menai Director, Resources & Development
Jon Bailey	Cape PLC- Member of the Public
Susan P Scott	Anglesey Federation of the WI
Inspector Trevor Howes	CNC - Stakeholder Liaison Officer/Nuclear New Build Single Point of Contact
Gerry Belanger	Amlwch Town Council
Eric Torr	Cwmni Cemaes Cyf / Ynni Talybolion
Dylan Williams	Head of Economic Development, Isle of Anglesey County Council
Councillor G.O Jones	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Llifon
Councillor John Griffith	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Talybolion
Councillor Kenneth P Hughes	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Talybolion
Councillor Llinos Medi Huws	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Talybolion (Council leader)
Councillor Aled Morris Jones	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Twrcelyn
Councillor Richard Griffiths	Isle of Anglesey Ward Councillor for Twrcelyn
Councillor Dafydd Griffiths	Llaneilian Community Council (Chairman)
Gafyn Jones	Magnox Ltd
Colin Smith	Magnox Ltd
Mari Faulkner	Member of the Public
Mel O'Hara	Member of the Public
Andrew Connolly	National Grid
Gareth Williams	National Grid
Geraint Hughes	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Jamie Thomas	Representative for Rhun ap Iorwerth AM
John Idris Jones	Snowdonia Enterprise Zone
Iwan Williams	Taith i Waith
Anna M Jones	Tref Alaw Community Council
Dr Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Alwyn Rowlands	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau

### Apologies

Name	Organisation
Siân Gwenllian AM	Assembly Member for Arfon
Janet Finch Saunders AM	Assembly Member for Conwy
Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM	Assembly Member for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Rhun Ap Iorwerth AM	Assembly Member for Ynys Môn
Andrew Haigh	Assistant to Nathan Gill
Professor David Shepherd	Bangor University

Melanie Wymer	Bodorgan Trust
Carys Edwards	Head of HR, Isle of Anglesey County Council
Enid Williams	Isle of Anglesey's Youth Service
Councillor John Jukes	Llannerch-y-medd Community Council
Lyndsey Campbell-Williams	Lleisiau Lleol/Community Voice (youth/Medrwn Môn)
Medwyn Williams	Magnox Ltd
Stuart Law	Magnox Ltd
Jac Jones	Mechell Community Council
Hywel Williams MP	Member of Parliament for Arfon
Liz Saville Roberts MP	Member of Parliament for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Derek Vaughan MEP	Member of the European Parliament for North Wales
Derek Gadsdon	Member of the Public
John Cadwaladr Jones	Member of the Public
Michael Dodds	Member of the Public
Rita Lyon	Môn Communities First Cluster Manager for Anglesey
Maurice Core	NDA Site Representative Wylfa Power Station
Mark Thornton	North Wales Community Health Council Chair - Ynys Môn Committee
Alli Hunt	Nuclear Skills Academy for Nuclear
Abi Hughes	Taran Disability
David Hawkins	Unite the Union
Michelle Brown AM	Welsh Assembly Regional Member for North Wales
Jackie Blackwell	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau

If your name has been inadvertently missed from this list or recorded inaccurately, please contact Horizon on 0800 954 9516 or by email at [wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com](mailto:wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com)

For general project information or to ask Horizon any questions, please contact the team on 0800 954 9516 or by email 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 the PLG website: [www.wylfaplg.com](http://www.wylfaplg.com)

**1. Welcome, minutes of the September 2017 meeting and matters arising** - Dennis Evans, Chairman

- Dennis Evans (**DE**) welcomed everyone to the meeting at 5.35pm. He commented on the news received regarding the completion of the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) process for the UK ABWR, details of which would be given later in the meeting.
- The minutes of the last meeting were received and approved by **DE**.
- Matters arising from the minutes:
  - Development Consent Order (DCO) would there be one or two DCO applications related to National Grid? An update would be given later in the meeting.
  - P6 – matters relating to the A5025 also to be addressed in the meeting.

**2. North Wales Connection Project update** – National Grid. This item was taken as the first presentation after the minutes.

- Gareth Williams (**GW**) and Andrew Connolly (**AC**) from National Grid gave a presentation on connecting low carbon energy generation in North Wales. Details on the timing of the

forthcoming DCO application for the Wylfa Newydd connection were presented. National Grid's DCO would be submitted after the Horizon DCO. A number of parties – such as NRW and the Isle of Anglesey County Council - were involved in very large DCO projects and they had requested a gap between submission dates, so they could give each application the attention it requires.

- Autumn activities were presented. These included environmental impact reports, engineering works, geological borehole assessments, environmental and ecological surveys. Underground cables were being diverted to allow for works on the new tracks on site. The 132kv double circuit to Holyhead was also undergoing major refurbishment work.
- National Grid was also supporting the Welsh Government with plans for a third Menai crossing. The Government had approached National Grid to request help with a feasibility study to assess running cables across a third bridge. This would negate having to build an underground cable tunnel beneath the Menai Strait. Work on the report would commence in January.

#### Questions and comments:

- **DE** asked for details of the feasibility study work timeline. This was confirmed as staged up to 18 months.
- **DE** asked whether the NG would be running two DCO applications, i.e. one regarding the bridge and one regarding underground cable tunnel?
  - **GW** confirmed the application would include only a cable tunnel.
- Colin Smith (**CS**) commented that the original 2-3 options that had appeared in a past newsletter to locals had included an option for running cables on the seabed which had been discounted due to the cost. If there was a third crossing would that bring into consideration a seabed option?
  - **GW** replied that the cost of offshore cables was significantly more expensive and that the focus was now on the comparison between the use of a tunnel and a bridge crossing. Plans for offshore cabling were not being taken forward.
- Councillor Richard Griffith (**RG**) requested confirmation on whether pylons would be run across Anglesey.
  - **GW** confirmed that the last round of consultation had proposed pylons. National Grid would be taking forward an application for a new overhead line across the island.
- **JJJ** asked whether the ONR had discussed a disaster management plan regarding the transmission network connection with National Grid.
- - **GW** confirmed that, while no discussions of this nature had taken place to date, he was happy to engage with anyone at any time.

- Councillor Llinos Medi Huws (**LIMH**) asked how discussions with the Welsh Government were progressing in relation to the third Menai crossing and the cabling across the Strait.
- - Gareth Williams stated that discussions had taken place and a feasibility study was being undertaken to look at the opportunities and challenges of a third crossing. Contact was being made with Welsh Government on a daily basis. **LIMH** expressed her disappointment in the plans, particularly following a positive discussion with the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport.

### 3. Introduction and Wylfa Newydd progress update – Horizon Nuclear Power

- Sasha Davies (**SD**), Head of strategic Development Wales presented a progress update. It was reported that Duncan Hawthorne's work was moving ahead positively with the UK and Japan governments. A number of potential investors had been given a tour of the site and guests from Japan had been introduced to the Horizon team.
- The main milestones for the previous year were listed, with SD highlighting:
  - The successful presence at the National Eisteddfod of Wales.
  - The third stage community consultation had been held
  - The second cohort of apprentices had started as part of the Technical Apprentices Scheme, with advertising for the third cohort to begin in the new year.
  - The nuclear Site Licence Application had been submitted to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR).
  - Two planning applications had been submitted to Anglesey County Council, one for site preparation and clearance, and the second for improvement works to the existing A5025 between Valley and the site.
  - The first Natural Resources Wales (NRW) permit application has been submitted, the Radioactive Substances Regulations permit
  - The Generic Design Assessment (GDA) had been successfully completed.
- A slide was displayed detailing a snapshot of Horizon's work with educational bodies
  - STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) work had been undertaken with the island's schools.
  - Horizon's first cohort of apprentices had visited Japan in the summer, which had been an excellent opportunity for them.
  - Horizon's education officer, Awen Ashworth, was commended for her excellent work with school liaison.
- Supply chain skills and development had supported:
  - Women in Nuclear, and Nuclear Institute North Wales branch launch in October.
  - The introduction of a pilot programme, the Wylfa Newydd Employment and Skills Service
  - Continued engagement with business through the FSB, CBI Wales and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.
- Details of work in the community were presented. Over £70,000 had been awarded to good causes in North Wales, these being predominantly for small but important community projects. Horizon also continued to support local organisations. More than 400 people had attended the community archaeology digs and open days on site, including pupils from many local schools.

- Recent site activity was listed. A great deal of work was ongoing, employing as many local contractors as possible. Approximately one third of the contractors were local and SD envisaged that this would rise.
- Roger Parkinson (**RP**), Head of Project Development presented an update on applications and permits. There were currently two applications submitted to Anglesey County Council. The first for Site Preparation and Clearance, which was in the process of review and consultation. The application mainly included the removal of trees, demolition of barns and related features. If the application was successful, the work would commence in the spring of 2018 and take 15 months to complete. The work needed to be seasonally managed due to wildlife and all work would be phased.
- A schedule for site preparation and clearance works was displayed as a chart and **RP** confirmed that the land would remain green as there would be no substantive soil stripping work carried out.
- **RP** reported that the second application to Anglesey County Council was for road improvements to the existing A5025, which had been accepted by the council on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. Subject to consent, work would commence late summer / early autumn 2018 and include preparation of the existing section of the road for construction traffic, including widening the road, re-surfacing and construction of a temporary recycling facility for road surfacing materials. A map was displayed indicating locations of the improvement works.
- Details of the environmental permit application for Radioactive Substance Regulation (RSR) were presented. This had been accepted by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) who were now consulting on it. A further three applications would be submitted in 2018, these being for a marine licence, combustion and warm water discharge.
- **RP** listed work planned for 2018, this included:
  - Submission of a Development Consent Order application to PINS. Advice and guidance had been received from consultees which had revealed some red line boundaries on the application that needed further investigation. A further consultation would be held in January.
  - A target grant date for Site Licence Application from the ONR.
  - Applications for the next cohort of apprentices would commence in January 2018 with a graduate scheme to follow.
  - Horizon would be present at the 2018 National Eisteddfod in Cardiff.
  - The public examination of the DCO application would begin in 2018, to be submitted at the end of March 2018. Acceptance was expected approximately 16 months after application.

#### Questions and comments:

- John Idris Jones (**JIJ**) congratulated Horizon for their support of the Eisteddfod this year as well as the expected support next year in Cardiff. He was also pleased to hear about the apprentices to be taken on and asked when the graduate scheme would begin? He also asked whether 6<sup>th</sup> form pupils would be supported with, for example, scholarships.
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- SD responded that Horizon was, as a company, committed to taking on more graduates. As soon as further information on this was available it would be shared with the PLG.
- **JJJ** asked for further clarification on whether Horizon was promoting positions for graduates from North West Wales and how subjects such as engineering were being promoted to 6<sup>th</sup> formers locally.
- - SD confirmed that a review of this was being carried out with the schools as well as Gwynedd and Conwy councils and that a great deal of work was being done to promote STEM subjects with primary and secondary schools. In addition to STEM subjects, construction was also to be included in the school liaison activities.
- **JJJ** asked whether Horizon placed a clause in its work contracts, requesting appointed contractors to employ a local apprentice.
  - **RP** confirmed that Horizon had included a clause.
- **DE** requested clarification that the A5025 works would be managed by Anglesey County Council and the Welsh Government with finance provided by Horizon. This was confirmed.
- **DE** raised the matter that previous discussions had included the request to widen the A5025 carriageway to conform to what was currently acceptable. There were two narrow parts that were not marked for widening in the plans due to trees, these being near Cefn Coch, and **DE** questioned whether this could be creating a dangerous pinch point?
  - **Action** – **Charlie Tasker (CT)** said that details of A5025 plans could be presented at the next PLG, to include information on the width of the carriageway in these areas.
- Dr Tom Conway (**TC**) commented that the A5025 plans did not include the Betws bends and **DE** confirmed that the plans shown were for the A5025 from the Wylfa Newydd site to Valley only.
- **RP** confirmed that the A5025 from site to Amlwch was not part of the designated traffic route but had been raised as an issue during Horizon's consultations. Horizon is aware of local feeling in relation to this stretch of road and is currently considering the feedback relating to it.
- Councillor Aled Morris Jones (**AMJ**) commented that it was heartening to hear Horizon was considering the need for improvements for the A5025 from the site to Amlwch and the Betws bends. He said that Isle of Anglesey County Council had been developing schemes for this road since 2013 and its Highways department would happily share these plans with Horizon.
- **TC** re-raised the issue of whether cycle tracks would be included in the road improvements.
  - **CT** said it was unlikely cycle tracks would be considered because of safety issues.
- Councillor Dafydd Griffiths (**DG**) asked for details on the application to NRW regarding the management of spent fuel.
  - **DE** confirmed this would be addressed later in the meeting.

- **DG** commented that he was very eager to see local young people employed as apprentices and asked whether the ability to communicate in both Welsh and English would be advantageous for those applying for apprenticeships in 2018.
  - **SD** confirmed that the criteria included both Welsh and English as being equally desirable for the positions. The Welsh language could be an advantage to applicants if all other factors were equal.
- **DG** asked for clarification on the site clearance plans, asking whether the land would be restored to its former condition in the event that Wylfa Newydd didn't go ahead.
  - **RP** confirmed funds would be set aside to completely reinstate the land if Wylfa Newydd did not go ahead.
- Councillor Gwilym O. Jones (**GOJ**) welcomed Horizon's 'partnership working' approach and said the £70,000 which Horizon had donated to local organisations was very much welcomed. He also asked for confirmation on whether the young people taken on as apprentices to date were in engineering jobs?
  - **SD** said those employed to date were technical apprentices, but Horizon was discussing with Menter Newydd the scope for construction apprentices. There were likely to be hundreds of apprenticeships created during construction. Higher apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships were also being discussed with further education colleges and universities.
- Wyn Thomas (**WT**) added that apprentices on the island would benefit from the new engineering centre under construction by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai in Llangefni, to be completed in approximately 12 - 15 months. The Welsh Government had funded the skills training centre for construction which would benefit learners working on the many new infrastructure developments in the forthcoming years.

#### 4. **Generic Design Assessment update - Hitachi Nuclear Energy Europe**

- Tristram Denton (**TD**) presented information on the successful completion of the GDA. A recap of GDA was given in that it was a regulatory assessment by the ONR, the Environment Agency (EA) and NRW to judge whether a reactor design was suitable for deployment at a generic site in the UK. Work on the GDA had begun in 2013 and the confirmation documents had been signed by the regulator the previous day and were now available on the company's website for viewing.
- Details of what the GDA application entailed was presented. 300 full time staff had worked on it for more than 4 years across Japan and the UK. It involved a joint project team from Hitachi-GE, Horizon and GE-Hitachi. More than 6000 regulatory submissions were made during that period and the course of the process raised and closed 1,519 regulatory queries, 82 regulatory observations and 2 regulatory issues, both of which were addressed. Circa £39 million had been provided to regulators for rechargeable work.
- The PLG was advised to view relevant documents online at
  - [www.hitachi-hgne-uk-abwr.com](http://www.hitachi-hgne-uk-abwr.com)

- the ONR website at [www.onr.org.uk/new-reactors/uk-abwr/index.htm](http://www.onr.org.uk/new-reactors/uk-abwr/index.htm)
  - The UK Government website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/assessing-new-nuclear-power-station-designs>
  - NRW at <https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-regulate-you/our-role-in-nuclear-regulation/?lang=en>
- An explanation was given of “successful completion”. UK ABWR had been issued a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) by ONR and a Statement of Design Acceptability (SODA) by EA and NRW. This allowed the UK ABWR to proceed to site specific licensing, with the overall design accepted. However, it did not give Horizon permission to build a UK ABWR, which would still require the site-specific Regulatory approval of the overall site design.
  - Points of interest were listed including that the UK ABWR was only the third technology to receive a DAC and SODA. This was considered a very ambitious outcome in 2013 and had set a good tone moving forward.
    - Some things had changed during the GDA, including lessons learned following Fukushima, changes in aircraft shielding since 2011 and UK specific requirements, as there were differences between different countries. **TD** stressed that specific sites would have their own designs. DAC and SODA did not mean that the design was finalised. Assessment findings, i.e. aspects found in the GDA but requiring site specific information would need to be addressed in the future. There were slightly over assessment findings on which the ONR would need further information in due course.
  - In conclusion **TD** stated that Hitachi-GE wanted to provide its client with proven technology that works safely in the timeframe given.

#### Questions and comments:

- **JJJ** congratulated Hitachi-GE and the team for completing the process so smoothly; this provided confidence that the design would operate safely. With regard to moving on to the next step he asked how much of the design work completed as part of the GDA process would be applicable to the Wylfa Newydd site?
  - **TD said** that the GDA was a ‘generic assessment’ and that the Hitachi-GE team was supporting Horizon to help address the more specific design elements required.
  - Paul Stevens (**PS**) also responded stating that the GDA process related to the core of the plant and that moving on from a generic to specific design would require consideration of all site-specific issues, including safety.
- Mel O’Hara (**MO’H**) commented that he had attended a NRW presentation some time ago, during which information had been given on the release of nuclides and had been informed that background nuclear radiation was expected to increase at Cemaes Bay when the new plant started operating
- - **DE** responded that this question would be raised later in the meeting.
  - **TD** added that emissions of this type would all be below – and sometimes significantly below – the acceptable limits set by Regulators in the UK.

- **AMJ** congratulated Hitachi-GE on reaching this significant milestone and that the reactors built to date had been delivered to time and cost. He also commended the amount of questions that had been answered by Hitachi-GE throughout the GDA process.
- The presentation continued with Paul Stevens (**PS**) taking the floor. Slides detailing next steps were displayed and explained including the transition from generic assessment to site specific assessment. Developing a Wylfa specific design was now underway. The GDA related to a single unit and Wylfa Newydd would have two. Once satisfied with the specification, the design would be handed over to the regulators, ONR, NRW and EA for further assessment.
- **PS** explained the design licensing process. In 2006 a two-phase process for design licensing was introduced – Phase 1 is the GDA and Phase 2 covers site specific licensing and permissions.
- A graphic was shown on how an ABWR was built in Japan, the design modification and learning from Fukushima. That was then translated into the UK ABWR, which was then moved to Wylfa Newydd-specific design.
- The next steps were presented and would require Horizon to secure a variety of consents and permissions. These include Town and Country Planning Act, DCO, Construction Permits, Environmental Permits, Euratom Submissions, and the Site Licence Application.
- **PS** reported that the Wylfa Newydd pre-construction safety report, a substantial piece of work, had also now been completed.

## 5. Radioactive Substances Regulation environmental permit application update – Natural Resources Wales

- Iwan Williams (**IW**) presented an update on the role of NRW in assessing and consulting on a number of different environmental permits submitted by Horizon. These include the Radioactive Substances Regulations permit (the subject of a current consultation being run by NRW) and four further permit applications that were expected from Horizon during 2018.
- The Radioactive Substances Regulations permit application is the first to have been submitted and NRW had begun the consultation process, which was open until the 14th January 2018. Documents that had been used in the drop-in sessions were made available to those present at the meeting. The documentation was also available on the NRW website.
- The main point included in these regulations were the levels of radioactive waste in the air and the effects on people living in the area. Should work go ahead with Wylfa Newydd, NRW/EA would monitor reactor emissions and ensure compliance with the license. A specific part of this licence included that Horizon have an appropriate monitoring system, as well as the resource and skills to be able to comply with all the regulations. **IW** stressed that should any members of the PLG have any comments they should submit them by January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- **IW** reported that NRW was also continuing to give Horizon guidance on the planning application process and had re-visited a number of documents over past months regarding

expectations, to ensure that the environment was not affected, specifically though construction work and the future running of the plant.

- NRW was awaiting several applications from Horizon, and when received consultation with local community would follow, likely in spring 2018.

#### Questions and comments:

- **MO'H** expressed his concern about policing of discharges and radioactive levels and asked for details on what would be discharged from the plant.
  - Gareth Beard (**GB**) the technical lead for permits at Horizon explained that the application detailed the exact isotopes expected in the discharges. He explained that one of the features of the ABWR was to contain and recycle as much water as possible. With regard to emissions into the air, exact details could be found in the application and would be part of the NRW detailed assessment. These would be 'policed' by the Regulators.
- **JJJ** thanked **GB** for the details and commented that the discharges would be no different from what had been discharged from the existing nuclear power station at Wylfa in the past and, in fact would be lower in the vast majority of instances. He stressed the importance of the regulator's monitoring procedures. Radioactivity varied across the country and it was important that this was explained in a clear way. Radiological doses levels set by Hitachi-GE were very low.
- The area of the UK with the highest level of naturally-occurring background radiation is Cornwall with around 7,000 microsieverts annually but the average for the UK is around 2,500. By way of comparison, Horizon's modelling suggested Wylfa Newydd would, conservatively, add an extra 37 to 38 microsieverts to existing and naturally-occurring levels of radiation on Anglesey. This is to the hypothetically worst affected person and not to every member of the of the population.
- **DE** asked if NRW would be consulting with the Japanese plant. IW confirmed that they would not and would be only focusing on the locality.
- **MO'H** asked when local people would be able to feedback on Horizon's proposals to store spent fuel on site for up to 140 years.
  - **SD** reminded members that the need to store spent fuel on site until a National Geological Disposal Facility became available for use was a requirement set by the UK Government for all new nuclear build sites in the UK. Horizon's proposals to store spent fuel on site had already been included in three public consultations. The DCO examination process would represent another opportunity for local people to register views on this subject.

#### 6. AOB



- Richard Foxhall (RF), reminded those present that a Horizon open surgery would be held the following week in Cemaes.

**7. Close**

- DE brought the meeting to a close at 19.45.