

**Minutes of the Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group
Thursday 28 June 2018, Wylfa Newydd Site Office, Cemaes**

Present:

Dennis Evans PLG, Chair	Rhosybol Community Council
Wyn Thomas, Deputy Chair	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai

Horizon

Gwen Parry-Jones	Executive Director - Operational Development
Sasha Davies	Head of Strategic Development Wales
Kieran Somers	Technical Planning Manager
Neil Burke	Head of Planning, Consents and Permits
Daron Hodges	Wylfa Newydd Site Manager
Danny Thomas	Strategic Development Wales Co-ordinator
Delyth Owen	Community Involvement Officer
Richard Foxhall	Communication and Stakeholder Relations Manager

Attendees

Gareth Williams	National Grid
Andrew Connolly	National Grid
Iwan Williams	Natural Resources Wales
Geraint Hughes	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Trevor Howes	CNC Nuclear New Build Liaison Officer
Alwyn Rowlands MBE	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau
Bethan Morris	CIO, IACC
Dr Claire Eno	Representative of Mandy Jones AM, Welsh Assembly Regional Member for North Wales
Dr Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Eric Torr	Cwmni Cemaes Cyf / Ynni Talybolion
Gafyn Jones	Magnox Ltd
John Cadwaladr Jones	Member of the Public
Cllr. John Griffith	Talybolion Ward
Cllr. Kenneth P. Hughes	Talybolion Ward
Mel O'Hara	Member of the Public
Michael Dodds	Member of the Public
Peter Day	Anglesey Federation of Small Businesses
Susan Scott	Anglesey Federation of the WI
Tony Jones	Regional Community Cohesion Co-ordinator
Rhian Hayes	Tregele Action Group
Kevin Barnet	Tregele Action Group

Also:

Aled Jones, Translator – Cymen
Sydna Roberts, Minute taker – Cymen

Apologies:

Cllr Richard Jones, Twrcelyn Ward
Greg Evans, Executive Director of Operations

*If your name has been inadvertently missed from this list or recorded inaccurately, please contact Horizon on 0800 954 9516 or by email at wylfanewyddplgs@horizonnuclearpower.com
For general project information or to ask Horizon any questions, please contact the team on 0800 954 9516 or by email wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com and visit www.horizonnuclearpower.com
You can access these minutes and all the presentations from the PLG meeting via the PLG website: www.wylfaplq.com*

1. Welcome, minutes of the March 2018 meeting and matters arising

The Chair Mr Dennis Evans welcomed everyone to the meeting at 5.30pm and noted that the Wylfa Newydd project was into its 10th year. He welcomed Gwen Parry-Jones to her first meeting of the PLG and referred to her wealth of knowledge and experience in the nuclear industry. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed a true record, proposed by Dr Tom Conway, with all members in agreement.

2. Introduction by Gwen Parry-Jones, Director of Nuclear Operations

Gwen Parry-Jones (GPJ) thanked the Chair for his kind words of welcome and provided all with a brief background of her career to date. She stated that she was appointed to the post of Director of Nuclear Operations with Horizon for Wylfa Newydd on the 4 April 2018 returning to her native Anglesey after 24 years honing her career in the nuclear industry, mainly in operations. She noted that she was delighted to be back and considered it a huge privilege to be leading the Wylfa Newydd project. GPJ acknowledged that in recent months the project had experienced 'stop/start' progress; however, in the last month significant steps have been taken to move the project forward. She referred particularly to the:-

- DCO Application Submitted to the Planning Inspectorate
- Applications for a Marine Licence and Environmental Permits submitted to Natural Resources Wales
- Parliamentary Statement by the Secretary of State, Greg Clarke MP
- Greg Evans appointed Executive Director of Operations

Summing up, GPJ stated that the next significant step in the process was to ensure appropriate finance what she described as 'securing the mortgage'.

3 Introduction and Wylfa Newydd progress update

Sasha Davies (SD) thanked all present for their attendance and for the opportunity to provide an update on behalf of Horizon. She noted that progress with the project has ramped up in recent weeks and the Chair wished to acknowledge this, noting that it was a boost to confidence locally. SD guided all through the update presentation drawing particular attention to the following:-

Education

- Continued the STEM engagement at primary schools in Anglesey and Gwynedd
- Since January 2018, 39 schools have been visited and 950 pupils met
- Shortlisted for an Arts and Business Cymru award in partnership with Bangor University for the 'Profi' programme
- Sponsored Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni who've reached the World Finals in Singapore for the F1 in Schools competition

Supply Chain and Skills Development

- The first year (second cohort) apprentices visited Japan for two weeks
- The second year (first cohort) apprentices will be gaining operational skills training in Cofrentes Nuclear Power Station, Spain through Horizon's training partner Tecnomat
- The third cohort of apprentices will start their first year with Horizon in September 2018
- The site team attended two workshops to help potential suppliers and contractors access Project opportunities
- Partnered with the Access to Work scheme and have recently welcomed Michael Gallagher to the team

SD referred to an apprentice Induction Day held earlier today. She acknowledged the positive knowledge growth identified within all cohorts and the significant developments within this area on the Island.

It was also noted that the former Magnox Wylfa Visitor Centre is currently being reconfigured to include an Education / Information Centre.

In the Community

- the Community Vehicle has been delivered to site, and will be out and about across the Island in the coming weeks
- Agreed a further sponsorship with the Anglesey Agricultural Society for the main pavilion at the Anglesey Showground
- Attending the Anglesey Show again this year – the 10th consecutive year
- Also attending the National Eisteddfod of Wales in Cardiff as one of the main sponsors

Site Activity

- National Grid NGET cable diversion works are continuing
- Undertaken maintenance activities across the site recently
- Environmental Team has been taking part in '30 Days Wild' and has been conducting receptor site surveys as part of this work

Questions:

Dr Claire Eno (CE) asked what support was available for young people from further away in North Wales who would have to move away from home if they were successful in applying for an apprenticeship.

Wyn Thomas (WT) offered reassurance that students from near and far are fully supported to attend the Coleg Menai campus, and practical measures such as 'paid for' bus routes across the neighbouring counties are facilitated.

SD confirmed that there are ongoing discussions with Grŵp Llandrillo Menai as regards identifying the types of construction skills that will be required for the Wylfa Newydd project. **WT** stressed the importance of relaying this message to all students as soon as practicable and that effective and efficient communication was the key. **SD** noted that work is ongoing regarding the Outreach and Education programme extending to Primary and Secondary Schools and involving students, teachers and parents/guardians across the 3 neighbouring counties noting that the apprentices themselves are the best ambassadors for the training schemes.

Dr Tom Conway (TC) expressed disappointment that despite the construction timeline, there had only been 'talking' since 2009, and made comparisons to decision and build for the current Wylfa power station in the 1960s. He also opined that Government involvement was highly questionable and very high risk. **GPJ** explained the significant differences in planning and funding between the 1960s and the present day, over 50 years later, and how Government involvement helps to drive the price of construction down.

WT asked for an explanation of the advantages of modularisation.

Daron Hodges (DH) explained that significant assembly of structures off-site in controlled conditions gave a far greater level of quality control, and with less construction time required on site, as pieces would arrive pre-fabricated, the overall construction time would be significantly reduced.

Cllr Ken Hughes (KH) welcomed the reduction in construction risk, but government support was not cast-iron. With this in mind, how much work would Horizon continue to do?

GPJ described the work schedule remained unchanged up until Final Investment Decision, and that an announcement on the funding model would be made in due course.

4 Development Consent Order (DCO) application and planning consent update –

Kieran Somers (KS) Technical Planning Manager was welcomed to the meeting and gave an update on the Development Consent Order. He noted the following:-

- Development Consent Order (DCO) application was submitted on Friday 1 June.
- The DCO application is broken down into eight volumes and contains 440 documents and more than 41,000 pages. It is the major permission needed to build Wylfa Newydd.
- A short guide has been developed in order to fully understand the DCO application and to explain where to find relevant information.

Planning Inspectorate Next Steps

- The application has been accepted
- The pre-examination phase has begun and the public can register as an interested party
- Following this, a Preliminary Meeting will take place possibly around the end of October.
- The process usually takes 3-4 months and will then move onto the examination, recommendation and decision phases. The whole process usually takes around 17-18 months.

Our next steps

- An island-wide newsletter will be issued, explaining what happens next and advertising the month-long period for interested parties to register will be issued soon
- All non-technical summaries will be available in libraries across Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy
- Copies of all the application documents will be available on the PINS website, at the Anglesey Business Centre and at the Wylfa Newydd Site Office

There have also been applications submitted to Natural Resources Wales for a Marine Licence and three environmental permits. The environmental permits are Combustion, Water discharge (construction) and Water discharge (operations) - Natural Resources Wales will hold its own consultation on these applications.

Finally, KS referred to the local Town and Country Planning Act applications.

The IACC Planning Committee is expected to consider the planning applications for Site Preparation and Clearance in either July or September and the planning application for the A5025 on-line improvements in July.

Wyn Thomas (WT) enquired as to the start/plan date for the A5025 works. The Chair noted that the highway works will only involve widening of the road, and **Richard Foxhall (RF)** reminded members that the works will be undertaken by IACC appointed contractors. **SD** stated that from the 11 Framework Contractors identified by IACC, 8 are based locally and across North Wales.

The Chair thanked both Sasha Davies and Kieran Somers for the information shared.

5. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) - Receipt of Environmental Permit applications from Horizon, their acceptance and subsequent consultation period

Iwan Williams (IW) was welcomed to the meeting and provided members with an overview of the NRW involvement in the DCO process. He referred to the applications received for a Marine Licence and three environmental permits: Combustion; Water Discharge (Construction); and Water Discharge (Operations).

He outlined the consultation process as follows:-

Consultation period – 28.06.18 – 06.09.18

Consultation events:

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| • 16 July 2018 | 13:00 – 18:30 | Storiell, Bangor, LL57 1DT |
| • 17 July 2018 | 13:00 – 18:30 | David Hughes Hall, Cemaes, LL67 0LW |
| • 18 July 2018 | 12:00 – 17:00 | Ebenezer Centre, Llangefni, LL77 7PN |

IW also noted that that all relevant documents are available at the following locations:-

- NRW, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd
- Horizon Website
- Horizon, Wylfa Newydd Site Office
- Council Offices, Llangefni Business Parc, Llangefni.

Dr Claire Eno (CE) enquired as to the effect on birds, and in particular the tern colonies, in the area. IW that discussions have been ongoing between NRW, Horizon, the RSPB and other relevant bodies for many years regarding environmental impact. **Neil Burke (NB)** referred to discussions held today regarding the prevention of any potential impact on the tern colonies whereby it was agreed that Horizon's assessment has concluded that there will be no adverse effects. It was acknowledged, key stakeholders do not agree with that position and that discussions between all relevant parties will continue and close monitoring and reporting will be regularly carried out. CE asked what survey work has been undertaken and whether Horizon is relying on the NGOs for this information. NB acknowledged the work of the wardens of the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT) but stated that Horizon had to undertake their own extensive survey work in order to support the regulatory applications. He stated that the survey effort stretched over several years.

The Chair asked the National Grid representatives to provide an update on the North Wales Connection Project and thanked **Gareth Williams (GW)** & **Andrew Connolly (AC)** for attending the meeting.

Andrew has worked on several DCOs on behalf of National Grid. He mentioned that Horizon having had their DCO application accepted by PINS was excellent news, but the hard work continues. National Grid is currently developing its own DCO documents for submission to PINS – with submission due in September. National Grid will then go through a similar process to Horizon, for the proposed connection for Wylfa Newydd. As with Horizon, PINS will decide when and how to manage the various hearings associated with the application.

National Grid has run a feasibility study with Welsh Government to look at the possible use of a third Menai road crossing to carry cables across the Strait to Pentir, which was signed in May. This will look at the options proposed and investigate the benefits and constraints. However, National Grid are currently progressing with submission of documents based on a tunnel option under the Menai Straits.

The Chair commented that Welsh Government is intent on looking at the preferred location for a third bridge option over the Menai Straits. He asked National Grid whether they would need to run 2 DCO applications if there was pressure from Welsh Government to install the cables across the new bridge. Would this lead to a delay? A supplemental question was asked by **Dr Tom Conway (TC)** why they couldn't just install the lines along the current bridge.

AC - At the moment National Grid don't know where the preferred location will be for the proposed new bridge. When they are party to the options then National Grid will look at them and investigate

what's feasible for the existing and new cable structures. They are working with Welsh Government to look at the options and the preferred route. Currently, there is no 400k line installed on a bridge anywhere in the world.

In terms of installing the lines on one of the current bridges, it's more complex than it seems. There are specific requirements around the gap between each cable-line, there are difficulties getting on/off the bridge structure and with the other networks that already utilise the bridges. At the moment, it would not be possible to install the lines on either of the current bridges.

Cllr Jon Griffith (JG) stressed how important it was that National Grid consults with the local authority, other public bodies and the public in general. He stated that National Grid had declined to meet with the current County Council (elected some 15 months ago). It has been a while since National Grid have met with elected members – and the current County Council are yet to receive a briefing/update in person from National Grid. There remains fierce opposition to the proposed overhead lines with a strong bias towards undergrounding the cables. Would the National Grid please arrange a Briefing Session with the new Council so that the Councillors can be updated?

Gareth Williams (GW) from National Grid responded by highlighting that they have held 60 meetings with Isle of Anglesey County Council over the last 12 months. They have held over 70 public events and received several thousand pieces of feedback. Also, they have received over 300 pages of detailed technical feedback from IACC. They believed that the engagement work on this project is the gold standard in the energy sector. It is clear that there is a disagreement on the proposals, but the role of the Planning Inspectorate will be to decide the right course of action.

6 Any Other Business

Mr John Jones (JJ) expressed deep concerns about the lack of clarity and openness with people that own and have an interest in land around the power station. However, he admitted that he was looking forward to discussing these fears in a meeting that had been arranged for the following day (29 June) with Gwen Parry-Jones.

Mr Eric Torr from Cemaes Bay History Group asked a question about the current archaeological operations on-site. He mentioned that a few archaeological sites have been back-filled over last few months. In the current period of good weather, it was suggested that Horizon should have an Open Day so that the public can have the opportunity to see the archaeological discoveries in the flesh. Would it be possible to arrange school visits before end of term? He hoped that in the long term that there will be a centre/exhibition space with interpretation of discoveries, reconstructions and reproductions to give historical tourism a boost in Anglesey.

GPJ responded by agreeing that there have been some very interesting discoveries, but recently archaeological works have been on hold, so that a long-term strategy can be developed. There is a statutory responsibility on Horizon to undertake archaeological work – but this is something they actually want to do anyway. In terms of a programme of work, tenders are now out to agree on the archaeological work needed over the summer - with the majority of this work to be completed by October. GPJ asked how best Horizon might engage with the Historical Society to arrange a series of tours/open days or displays of the key artefacts.

Cllr Ken Hughes (KH) asked, with the Wylfa Newydd now 10 years down the road and construction still not approved, whether there were any alternative or competitive energy production schemes in the UK if this bid wasn't successful?

GPJ responded by stating that that energy usage is anticipated to increase significantly in the future, with the demand almost doubling over the next 50 years. A comprehensive energy mix is required if we are going to be successful. If nuclear developments didn't proceed then the only other option would be gas generation. But using gas would bring about issues with price volatility –

either from Eastern Europe or shale gas. The current Government Policy on energy is that nuclear provides part of the answer alongside renewables. However, these nuclear projects are too big for private investors alone, and must have Governmental support.

There are other nuclear developments in the pipeline. Hinkley Point C – a Final Investment Decision was made 2 years ago. There is also the NuGen Project in Cumbria, and plans for Small Modular Reactors in the longer term. But these are much further behind in terms of planning. There are also 2 other projects in the pipeline; EDF's Sizewell C project in Suffolk and the Chinese proposal for Bradwell in Essex, but again these are behind the development here at Wylfa. Horizon has another site in Oldbury, and that project is sitting behind Wylfa Newydd.

With no further business to discuss, the Chair thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

Date of the next meeting – Thursday 20th September at 17:30s

As requested during the meeting, the link to Horizon's Applications for a Marine Licence Permit; Construction Water Discharge Environmental Permit; Operational Water Discharge Environmental Permit; and Operational Combustion Activity Environmental Permit can be accessed at the following location: <https://www.horizonnuclearpower.com/our-sites/wylfa-newydd/documents>