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COMMUNITY UPDATE

Our plans for new nuclear power at Oldbury

In this issue

Page 2

Electricity market
White Paper

Page 2

What's happening
at Wylfa?

Page 3

Flood protection for a
new nuclear station

Page 4

Meet the
team



Green light for energy NPS

Parliament has ratified the Government's draft National Policy Statements (NPS) for energy providing a framework for the development of new low carbon energy resources in the UK.

The nuclear NPS (EN-6) includes both of Horizon's sites – Wylfa on Anglesey in North Wales and the land adjacent to the existing power station near Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire – as potentially suitable sites for new nuclear developments to be brought forward.

The Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), or its successor organisation, will need to balance the NPS policies against potential environmental and local effects when making recommendations on applications for development consent.

The final decision will be taken by the

Secretary of State under new procedures established by the Government.

Alan Raymant, Chief Operating Officer at Horizon, said: "This is another important step forward in setting the policy framework for new nuclear power stations in the UK. It means we can press ahead with our plans, confident that the national need for new nuclear power stations is formally recognised by the planning system.

"Our intention is to incorporate learnings from the Wylfa programme into our plans for Oldbury and we expect to have more detail on our approach in early 2012."

● This newsletter is delivered by hand to around 15,000 homes on both sides of the Severn. Copies are also distributed to One Stop Shops and libraries throughout South Gloucestershire, the Forest of Dean and Stroud District Council.

WELCOME

TO OUR SIXTH UPDATE
NEWSLETTER.



Since our last Community Update in May, the UK's Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations, Dr Mike Weightman, has published an interim report into the lessons to be learnt from the events at the power plant at Fukushima following the Japanese tsunami earlier this year.

It includes a recommendation for a review of the flood protection standards in the UK to revalidate them and we are fully supportive of this.

Work on understanding what flood protection measures may be required for our project at Oldbury is currently a key area of focus for the Oldbury development team. On page 3 of this issue Horizon's Site Development Engineer, James Crook, outlines how cutting-edge computer modelling is helping to shape our thinking in this area.

This autumn sees further drop-in dates in Oldbury, Thornbury and our first in Chepstow. This is an opportunity for local people to quiz the Horizon Oldbury development team on flood protection or any other project related issues. See page 4 for further details.

James Eaton
Oldbury Project Developer

This summer the Government set out its approach to electricity market reform. Its White Paper outlines how £110bn of investment will be needed to ensure the UK has the electricity generating infrastructure it needs for the future.

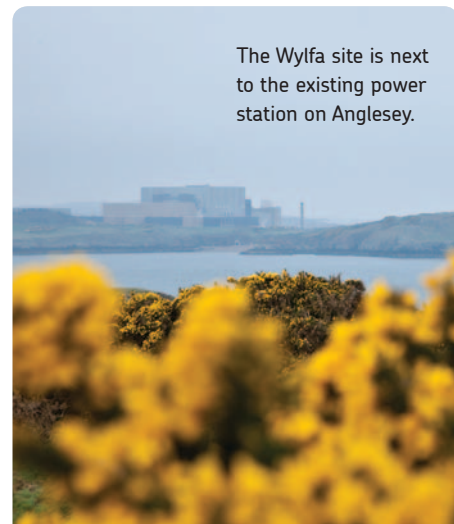
Nuclear will be part of low carbon mix

In order to help achieve the UK's goal of cutting carbon emissions by 80 per cent by 2050, the Government believes that nuclear power has a vital role to play – alongside renewables – and expects nuclear to generate 40 per cent of the country's electricity requirements as we move to a low carbon economy.

Nuclear power is the only proven technology capable of delivering large quantities of low carbon power that is available almost constantly. Evaluating all the major low

carbon technologies on an equal basis, nuclear is also the most economical in terms of the cost per unit of electricity generated. The White Paper sets out an equal framework for private investment in the whole range of low carbon power needed to maintain secure electricity supplies while tackling climate change.

Alan Raymant, Chief Operating Officer at Horizon Nuclear Power, said: "We welcome the Government's commitment to reforming the electricity market and our shareholders, RWE and E.ON will be discussing this in detail with them."



The Wylfa site is next to the existing power station on Anglesey.

Wylfa update

The first stage of formal public consultation at Wylfa, Horizon's lead site, is set to begin in early 2012.

Ahead of this, the team continues to work with both possible reactor suppliers, the Areva NP consortium (offering the EPR reactor) and NPDUK, a consortium formed by Westinghouse Electric Company (offering the AP1000 reactor). Horizon expects to make an announcement on its preferred supplier for Wylfa before the end of the year.

At the Wylfa site, ground investigations and environmental studies, including marine surveys, are continuing. A local Public Liaison Group (PLG) has also been set up to provide an on-going channel of communication for local groups and community representatives. In addition, the supply chain management team will be working with local businesses to ensure that they benefit from the opportunities the construction of a new nuclear power station will bring.

Alan Smith, Head of Site Development, said: "The project at Wylfa is now approaching significant milestones and these will help us to shape a clearer programme for a potential new plant at Oldbury which we will share with local people."



● The Horizon team raised £1,800 in this year's Oldbury Fun Run. The nine runners finished third in the team race behind The Anchor and Fat Pigeon teams. Oldbury Project Developer Rebecca Hardy was Horizon's fastest runner, completing the 7km course in 28 minutes 4 seconds. "This was the second year we entered a team," said Rebecca. "We are thrilled to have raised so much in sponsorship for Clic Sargent and the local charities the fun run supports."

Local talks

So far in 2011, Horizon's development team has outlined its plans for Oldbury to over 300 local people across seven separate presentations to local groups and meetings.

Talks have included the sixth form at The Castle School, Thornbury Probuss Group, Thornbury 41 Club and Berkeley Vale CPRE. Most recently Horizon Project

Engineer Chris Pearce presented to the Severn Estuary Forum in Cardiff. Organised by the Severn Estuary Partnership, an independent initiative providing support to organisations with responsibilities or interests in the estuary, this year's forum focused on the latest developments in energy generation, flooding control and climate change adaptation in the estuary.

Protecting a new nuclear station from flooding



Oldbury Site Development Engineer, James Crook (left), provides an update on the on-going studies looking at how best to protect a possible new nuclear power station near Oldbury from the risk of flooding:

We believe that our site can accommodate a new nuclear power station safely taking into account the flood plain location and the possible effects of climate change and/or a major flooding event, as required by the regulators.

As part of the stringent planning and licensing process we are required to carry out extensive assessment of a range of potential natural events. This includes considering those with a remote probability (e.g. 1 in 10,000 years), taking account of the possible effects of natural disasters such as tsunamis or storm surges, as well as the possible implications of climate change. The starting point for developing plans to protect our site from a 1 in 10,000 year flood event is flood risk modelling which uses sophisticated software to simulate the complex interaction between tides, waves, surface run off and river volume that exists in Oldbury's estuarine setting. This allows us to examine an extensive range of "what if" scenarios.

The modelling also allows us to review the possible consequences of climate change impacts. These include looking at a range of potential sea level rises as well as wave height increases, both of which could lead to an increased risk of flood defences being overcome. In addition, the modelling also allows us to look at the impact that natural disasters such as tsunamis and tidal surges could have. Initial work in this area indicates that, given enhanced flood protection measures, a repeat of the 1607 event would not lead to a new station near Oldbury being flooded.

Independent environmental experts Royal Haskoning are carrying out the initial work for us using specialist flood modelling software and we are working in conjunction with the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) throughout the process. Essentially these studies give us the parameters that will define how we will defend the site against flood risk and the next step is modelling potential flood risk mitigation options, which will continue into next year.

Ultimately flood protection measures are likely to consist of a combination of raising the site level and improving existing flood protection measures. Whatever solution is finally proposed we will have to demonstrate that the flood protection measures do not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere in the locality. In fact



it is expected that the steps we take may well improve flood protection for the area as a whole. Following our detailed modelling we will be looking into the feasibility of implementing such solutions at Oldbury and this will commence in 2012 and continue into 2013.

Our proposals with regards to flood protection and other key aspects of our proposals will of course be assessed extremely thoroughly by the regulators. The UK nuclear regulator, the ONR, continually reviews safety arrangements against world best practice, applying knowledge from lessons learned from around the world before and throughout the operational lifetime of the plant.

Work at bungalow site

Following approval from South Gloucestershire Council, Horizon is carrying out some work on land adjacent to the recently demolished bungalow on Shepperdine Road.

The work which will be carried out this month (October) is likely to last around three weeks and will involve clearing and levelling the ground. On completion the area will be leased for use as occasional additional car parking and grazing for a local equestrian business.

Horizon takes its responsibility as a landowner very seriously. This move demonstrates that we are taking active steps to ensure that the land we own around Oldbury is put to good use ahead of proposed construction.



Environmental manager, Lorna Heffron (left), outlines the work involved in securing biodiversity across our proposed site at Oldbury:

Getting to know Oldbury's ecology

MEET THE TEAM

Q What is your current focus at Oldbury?

Right now I am involved in identifying the site's ecological constraints and considerations, the first phase in developing an environmental management plan for Oldbury. Ultimately this work will feed into the preparation of the Environmental Statement (ES) to accompany our future planning application, in which we need to detail how we will responsibly manage all ecological aspects associated with building a new power station.

Q What are the main ecological considerations of the site?

The Severn Estuary is already a protected RAMSAR* conservation area as well as being designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for overwintering birds and the habitats which attract

* The Ramsar Convention is an international agreement which provides for the conservation and good use of wetlands.

them. There are also a number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the vicinity, so a lot of our work will involve looking at how we can minimise the possible impacts of our project and instigating mitigation measures – or even habitat compensation through the creation of replacement habitats. We are already working with key stakeholders including the Environment Agency, Natural England and the Countryside Council for Wales.

Q What have you learnt so far?

Our intertidal bird surveys carried out by independent experts over the last two years have helped to confirm the key species using the site as well as identifying their migratory and behaviour patterns. In addition we are very fortunate to be able to use Magnox's work on enhancing biodiversity across the existing site as the standard for what can be achieved.

Drop-ins

This autumn we are holding further drop-in sessions, including our first in Chepstow. Dates and venues for October are:

- Monday 17 October at Oldbury Memorial Hall, 13 Camp Road, Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire BS35 1PT from 3.30pm to 8.30pm.
- Tuesday 18 October at The Cossham Hall, Armstrong Hall Complex, Chapel Street, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire BS35 2JB from 3.30pm to 8.30pm.
- Wednesday 26th October at The Drill Hall, Lower Church Street, Chepstow, Gwent NP16 5HJ from 11.30am to 3.30pm.

Over 40 people attended the drop-in sessions we held in June in Oldbury and Thornbury and we valued the opportunity to answer people's queries and to clarify a number of key issues about our project, such as our preference for lower, hybrid cooling towers.

Tim Proudler, Planning and Consents Manager for Horizon, said: "Our drop-ins are a great opportunity for local people to put any questions they may have about our project to members of the Oldbury team. We have previously held a number of public exhibitions on our proposals and, although these will continue as our project develops, we wanted to supplement this with something more informal while we remain in the early stages of our work."

Information on the drop-in sessions is available on Horizon's web site www.horizonnuclearpower.com or via our freephone number: 0800 130 3125.

Contact us

If you have any queries or issues you would like to raise with us, please call our usual freephone number: 0800 130 3125 or email us at: oldburyenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com For more information go to: www.horizonnuclearpower.com