

Horizon Nuclear Power welcomes NPS publication

Horizon Nuclear Power today (23 June 2011) welcomed the inclusion of its proposed new build site near Oldbury on Severn, South Gloucestershire, in the National Policy Statement (NPS) on nuclear which has been published by the Department for Energy and Climate Change.

The publication of the six statements (EN1 – 6) sets the strategic backdrop for the planning process for a range of projects, including the development of new nuclear power stations.

Alan Raymant, COO of Horizon, said:

"The publication of these statements represents another step forward towards the delivery of new nuclear developments in the UK.

"Oldbury is an excellent site for nuclear new build and a new power station here can bring hundreds of jobs and millions of pounds of investment into the area. Approved National Policy Statements are necessary to allow us to progress our planning application."

Horizon said the Office for Nuclear Regulation's assessment of reactor technologies was also important.

"The Generic Design Assessment timetable has quite rightly been adapted to make sure any lessons learned from the events in Japan can be incorporated, enabling us to set out a clear, confident safety case alongside our planning application," said Raymant.

"New nuclear developments can provide the UK with a clean, secure and sustainable energy future."

Horizon plans to deliver around 6,000 MW of new nuclear power station capacity in the UK by 2025. As well as its Oldbury site, the company has a site at Wylfa on the Island of Anglesey, North Wales.

Tim Proudler, Planning and Consents Manager for Horizon, said:

"We are starting at Wylfa first and we'll look to incorporate learnings from the programme into our approach to Oldbury. We expect to have more details of that in the new year. By then we'll have seen the final report of the Chief Nuclear inspector into lessons learned from Japan, and we expect to have selected a construction consortium for Wylfa."

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Notes to editors:

1. The National Policy Statements were developed following the 2008 Planning Act and will be considered by the Infrastructure Planning Commission in the development of major infrastructure projects. The statements published today also cover wind generation and grid developments amongst other projects.
2. Horizon Nuclear Power is a UK energy company developing a new generation of nuclear power stations. A joint venture between E.ON UK and RWE npower, we plan to deliver around 6,000 MW of new nuclear power station capacity in the UK by 2025.