
NEWS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Horizon welcomes step forward on GDA

Horizon Nuclear Power today welcomed confirmation that DECC has asked the nuclear regulators to begin formal discussions with Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy, Ltd., (Hitachi-GE) regarding the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR).

An application to DECC was made by Hitachi-GE earlier this month.

Horizon Chief Operating Officer Alan Raymant said: "This is a major step forward at an early time in Hitachi's ownership of Horizon. GDA is one of the key processes necessary to allow development of new nuclear power stations at Wylfa and Oldbury".

"GDA is a rigorous and demanding process that ensures the safety case for the technology is robust. We are committed to supporting Hitachi-GE and developing Horizon's ABWR expertise throughout the process. The ABWR is a proven technology which we believe will bring significant benefits to the UK".

Discussing Horizon's longer term plans Raymant said: "We look forward to setting out more detail on our strategy and programme in the next few months".

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Notes to editors

- Horizon Nuclear Power was formed in 2009 to develop new nuclear power stations in the UK, and was put up for sale by its founders in March 2012. The company was acquired by Hitachi of Japan on 23 November 2012.
- Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy, Ltd., (Hitachi-GE) is the technology provider and delivery team leader for Horizon's developments at Wylfa on the Isle of Anglesey and Oldbury-on-Severn in South Gloucestershire. Hitachi-GE is owned 80.01% by Hitachi Ltd and 19.99% by GE.
- The Generic Design Assessment (GDA) process is conducted jointly by the Office for Nuclear regulation (ONR) and the Environment Agency (EA). The process is completed with the issue of a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) and Statement of Design Acceptability (SODA).
- Horizon's developments at Wylfa and Oldbury will represent multibillion pound investments in the UK's infrastructure. Each is expected to create up to 6000 jobs at peak during the construction phase, and around 1000 during operation.

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