Community Update
Our plans for new nuclear power at Oldbury

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Welcome

to the latest issue of our newsletter

In the last year we have been building and strengthening our organisation. This has included attracting more of the people we need and the team at our Gloucester HQ now exceeds 320 and is expected to reach 400+ by 2016.

Training plays a crucial role as we expand our capabilities and our programmes have recently been recognised by the NEF: The Innovation Institute as being at the forefront of the nuclear sector. We are also proud of our new graduate scheme, which sees a local Lydney resident among the first intake to join our team (see page 4).

Our proposals for two new nuclear power plants will require billions of pounds of investment and this will come solely from private sources and not the public purse. Any future decommissioning costs will also be funded by the developer and not by the Government.

Our lead project at Wylfa Newydd is expected to come online in the first half of the 2020s. Its development will unlock significant job opportunities and benefit local companies through increased spend in the local economy. While still early days at Oldbury, where progress will be shaped by milestones at Wylfa, we anticipate that the community will see similar benefits. We will work with local people and businesses to maximise the potential for future regional growth.

Alan Smith
Senior Site Development Manager

Horizon digs for history

Archaeology enthusiasts are invited to get involved in a community heritage project at Oldbury Camp.

Horizon is teaming up with A Forgotten Landscape – a local natural and cultural project – to investigate the site of a possible Iron Age hill fort in the village of Oldbury-on-Severn.

Known locally as the Toot, the fort may have been significant in shaping the Lower Severn Vale in prehistoric and Roman times, yet little is known about the site. The project is part of A Forgotten Landscape’s extensive three-and-a-half-year programme to conserve and enhance the area’s unique natural and cultural heritage.

Those volunteering for the Oldbury projects will be shown how to carry out non-invasive surveys led by expert archaeologists ahead of participating in a 20-day archaeological dig in 2016. Helen Grundy, Horizon’s Corporate Sustainability Manager, said: “This is a really exciting community initiative helping to ensure that the activities and traditions that have shaped the area are celebrated and remembered.”

Miriam Woolnough, Project Manager at A Forgotten Landscape, added: “The dig could lead to important discoveries about Oldbury’s ancient past. Horizon’s support means we are able to extend our plans – including a ‘Join the dig’ open weekend.”

If you are interested in getting involved please visit www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk

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Property

New face in property team

Property Manager David Birch, who joined Horizon earlier this year, is now overseeing the land and buildings we own near Oldbury.

David, who has over 30 years’ property experience, is a Chartered Surveyor and has expertise in all aspects of property management.

“We recognise that it matters to the community that the local buildings we own are maintained effectively and this remains a priority for us,” said David. “Two of the buildings we own close to Oldbury are listed farmhouses which we want to restore and rent as homes. This will require significant investment as the work will need listed building consent and will need to be carried out by specialists. Restoration work at both properties is scheduled to get underway next year.”

David is also overseeing the removal of the former Windbound, situated close to the river, which needs to be demolished as the property is unsafe. Once the work is complete, the car park will be improved at this popular walking spot.

UPCYCLING PROJECT

Boost for scheme that helps young people

Forest Upcycling Project, which collects and repairs unwanted furniture and electrical goods in the Forest of Dean, has used a donation from Horizon Nuclear Power to purchase machinery equipment for use in the upcycling of furniture.

The Cinderford-based project works with young unemployed people, disabled adults and recovering addicts to restore donated items ahead of making them available to low income families.

Nadine Jones of Forest Upcycling Project said: “We provide opportunities for young people to learn valuable and transferable skills and, by giving unwanted furniture and electrical goods a new lease of life, we are also tackling the impact of greenhouse gases associated with landfill. We had been borrowing equipment from local businesses and our sanding jobs were being carried out by hand.

“Now we have our own sanders we will be able to upcycle even more goods allowing us to extend the scope of our work. Our employees will extend their skills and we can offer a broader range of upcycled goods to those who buy from our two shops.”

Scout group goes big in Japan...

With Horizon’s links to Hitachi and Japan we were thrilled to be able to help a local scout group learn first-hand about the Far Eastern way of life by attending the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Japan this summer.

The Avonators – 36 teenagers and four adult leaders from the former county of Avon area – joined 35,000 young people from around the world to participate in the world’s biggest scout camp. They took part in community and conservation projects, as well as spending time with Japanese host families.

Kat Allen, the Avonators’ Assistant Unit Leader, said: “We are extremely grateful to Horizon for its donation, which helped make it possible for us to attend the event.

“It was an incredible experience and one we will never forget: we made new friends for life.”
Technology

Reactor completes justification process

Earlier this year our chosen reactor technology, the Hitachi-GE UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (UK ABWR), successfully completed the Regulatory Justification process.

This represents the first major permission to be put in place and is a significant step forward in our plans to build at least 5,400MW of new nuclear power across our two sites.

Regulatory Justification is a high level review which ensures the benefits to society of the technology outweigh any potential disadvantages. It resulted in approval by the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change and both Houses of Parliament.

It is separate to the Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the UK ABWR, being carried out by the Office for Nuclear Regulation, the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales which assesses the safety, security and environmental implications of new reactor designs, away from site-specific specifications.

Hitachi-GE, our technology provider, continues to invite questions and comments on the UK ABWR design as part of the GDA process. Go to www.hitachi-hgnek-uk-abwr.co.uk for more information.

Community news in brief

- Horizon’s magenta and white corporate colours were used to good effect in a floral display located at the ‘pain and pump’ junction in the centre of Thornbury. The company part-sponsored the eye-catching display as part of the Thornbury in Bloom programme.

- Horizon signage graced the main stage at Thornbury Carnival this summer as part of the company’s sponsorship of the event. Horizon is a business member of the Friends of Thornbury Carnival, which works to provide long-term funding for the event.

- Those taking part in this year’s Oldbury Fun Run may have been focusing on their stride, but started and finished the race by passing under two new banners provided by Horizon. The bright new signs form part of our ongoing support of the event – an arrangement now in its sixth year. Horizon also annually covers the cost of the race timing system used to calculate the 550 plus runners’ finishing positions.

- Horizon’s Alan Smith attended a meeting of Thornbury’s Townswomen’s Guild to provide an overview of our plans for Oldbury and to answer questions about the project. If you would like a member of the Oldbury team to speak to your local group, please contact us via our freephone number 0800 130 3125.
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Tom looks forward to making a positive contribution...

Tom Tremlett from Lydney has joined Horizons Licensing and Permissions team as part of the company’s new graduate training scheme.

Based at its Gloucester HQ, Tom, who has a degree in environmental science, will first be involved in the development of environmental impact assessments at Wylfa.

Tom, who is a keen triathlete and also plays cricket for Parkend cricket club near Lydney, heard about the graduate scheme while studying at Bangor University, which is close to our lead site on Anglesey.

“Growing up in Lydney, I was aware of the former power plants at Oldbury and Berkeley and even did a school GCSE Geography project on nuclear energy,” said Tom. “I was very pleased when I was accepted for the graduate position as nuclear energy is vital for future electricity power generation and I wanted to get involved in these major construction projects.

“Looking ahead, it’s exciting to be involved in something close to home that will benefit the local community and economy and make a positive contribution to new energy supply.”

Graduate trainee Tom Tremlett

Regional benefits

Expected jobs boost for West Country economy

Business West, which represents chambers of commerce across the region, estimates that the nuclear industry will bring £50bn to the West Country over the next two decades.

With two new nuclear plants planned for the region, EDF’s Hinkley C in Somerset as well as Horizons own project at Oldbury, Business West has calculated that they could provide more jobs on site and in the supply chain during construction and operation than the London Olympics.

Business West has set up a new group, Nuclear South West, to help local businesses take advantage of this opportunity and Horizon is supporting this initiative. Along with over 200 local and regional businesses, we attended Nuclear South West’s recent launch in Bristol and look forward to working with the group in the future.

Industry Engagement Manager Amanda MacMillan said: “Organisations like Nuclear South West play an important role in reaching out to businesses and building relationships in a regional supply chain.”

For more information on Nuclear South West visit www.businesswest.co.uk/membership/nuclear-south-west

How to get in touch

PLEASE CONTACT US
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‘Horizon Nuclear Power’

Your personal details will be processed and stored by Horizon Nuclear Power and its agents in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 to keep you updated with any information related to the proposed new nuclear power station at Oldbury.

This newsletter is delivered by hand to around 16,000 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.