



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref **EN010007**

FAO: Kay Sully
National Infrastructure Planning
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
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01 March 2019

Dear Ms Sully,

EN010007 Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station

Welsh Government (IP Number: 20011597) Submission in advance of Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) on the Wylfa Newydd Development Area (WNTA) – 04 March 2019

1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The Welsh Ministers (hereafter referred to as Welsh Government) formally registered on 10 August 2018 as an Interested Party to the Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station Development Consent Order (DCO) Application, submitted by Horizon Nuclear Power (hereafter referred to as Horizon).
- 1.1.2 In advance of the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) on 04 March 2019 regarding the Wylfa Newydd Development Area (WNTA), please find enclosed an important update on Welsh Governments position regarding archaeological and heritage matters.

2 Terrestrial Archaeology

Overview

- 2.1.1 Horizon has been undertaking extensive intrusive archaeological investigations, including both trial trenching and open area excavation, on the WNTA since November 2015. The scale of the fieldwork undertaken at Wylfa Newydd has produced an unprecedented post-excavation assemblage and revealed the presence of nationally significant archaeological remains, dating from the Neolithic through to the early medieval period.
- 2.1.2 The Environmental Statement (ES) confirmed the presence of nine archaeological assets of high value and 38 archaeological assets of medium value that will be removed because of the Project. The ES concludes (Application Ref 6.4.78, PINS Ref. APP-214) major adverse, significant effects have been identified for all 47 of these heritage assets prior to mitigation.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

- 2.1.3 The Environmental Statement sets out (Application Ref. 6.4.11; PINS Ref. APP-130) that archaeological recording in advance of, or during, construction for physically affected archaeological remains would be undertaken as mitigation to reduce the magnitude of change and significance of residual effect. Archaeological recording, followed by a programme of reporting, analysis, publication, dissemination and archiving would be undertaken to make a permanent record of these remains and/or their settings.
- 2.1.4 Horizon has confirmed that all intrusive archaeological investigation works within the WNDA have now ceased. Horizon has confirmed to Cadw that archaeological investigations in 21 different areas, including full excavation in some areas, have now been completed. A further 18 archaeological 'hot-spots' identified within the WNDA that indicate the potential for archaeological remains have not been excavated.
- 2.1.5 Horizon has confirmed that an addendum to the Environmental Statement will be provided before the end of the Examination that will consider the post excavation findings. Welsh Government have indicated to Horizon that the addendum will need to be provided before Deadline 8 (25 March 2019) to give Interested Parties sufficient time to comment.

Post excavation works (for archaeological investigations already completed)

- 2.1.6 On the 26 February 2019, Horizon confirmed that they will no longer be adhering to the agreed Written Schemes of Investigation submitted to Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC), GAPS, and Cadw, in June 2017 and August 2018. Horizon highlighted a risk that they may no longer be able to proceed in carrying out any post-excavation reporting, analysis, publication, dissemination and archiving.
- 2.1.7 This is of grave concern to Welsh Government and Cadw. The ES concluded that without appropriate archaeological recording there would be large, major adverse effects on 47 heritage assets within the WNDA. Only with the archaeological recording does the ES conclude that there would not be significant adverse impacts. In addition, Welsh Government and Cadw are concerned that, in the absence of any commitment from Horizon to complete the post-excavation requirements, this nationally important archaeological assemblage will degrade and may be at risk of being permanently lost.
- 2.1.8 Welsh Government have since received correspondence (01 March 2019), confirming that Horizon are undertaking further work to determine how to take forward these outstanding elements. The actual detail and timescales have not been shared and Welsh Government and Cadw would welcome an opportunity for Horizon to explain this further at the ISH on Monday 04 March 2019.
- 2.1.9 Unless a satisfactory mitigation solution can be agreed, Welsh Government will submit representations that a Section 106 commitment or DCO Requirement is necessary to mitigate the potential harm on these heritage assets. Any obligation on Horizon will need to be enforced immediately and be reinforced with appropriate security for performance. Discussions are ongoing with Horizon about potential mechanisms that would secure the completion of the above works in a timely manner. Welsh Government may wish to raise further points on this matter at the ISH on Wednesday 06 March 2019.

Further archaeological works (not yet undertaken at the WNDA)

- 2.1.10 Based on the Archaeological Summary Reports that have been provided to Cadw, these formally confirm the high value and nationally significant importance of some of the archaeological assets that have been excavated. It is known that these significant remains extend beyond the areas of excavation and consequently, Cadw are considering scheduling some of these remaining areas of the site along with areas which have been subject to intrusive archaeological investigations, where archaeological features can still be identified (e.g. the cemetery at Wylfa Head).

- 2.1.11 The Applicant has made provision through Requirement *SPC 8 – Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation* to submit for approval with IACC, in consultation with Cadw, a Written Scheme of Investigation relating to archaeological remains still on site. However, Welsh Government is concerned of the current wording of SPC 8 and intend to make further points in relation to scope and drafting at the ISH on 6th March.
- 2.1.12 With respect to Requirement WN-1, it is not clear in the current drafting what the Archaeological Mitigation Scheme would cover as there is no definition included for this. Considering the recent change in approach identified by Horizon, Welsh Government / Cadw would request that either further clarity is given through a definition or that an archaeological strategy is provided as a certified control document.

3 Cestyll Gardens

Overview

- 3.1.1 Cestyll Gardens is a (Grade II) Registered Historic Park and Garden, consisting of a valley garden, a nearby walled kitchen garden, and the site of the former Cestyll House (demolished in 1991). The Environmental Statement (Application Ref. 6.4.11; PINS Ref. APP-130) states that Cestyll Garden is a high value receptor that will be subject to significant adverse effects during the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases of Wylfa Newydd. The ES concludes that this impact constitutes substantial harm, as described by the NPS EN-1, because of a permanent and substantial loss of the value (significance) of this heritage asset due to the loss of the Kitchen Garden and the site of the former Cestyll House resulting from the temporary laydown area that will serve the Marine Offloading Facility (MOLF).

Proposed mitigation of Cestyll Gardens

- 3.1.2 To date, the Applicant has not presented or committed to any mitigation that is directly related to the permanent loss of the Kitchen Garden and the site of the former Cestyll House. This concern has been raised throughout the pre-Examination and Examination of the DCO, most recently in paragraph 13.3.8 and 13.3.21 of Welsh Government's Written Representation [REP2-367] and in Welsh Government's response to the Second Round of ExA Questions [Q2.6.3, REP2-366].
- 3.1.3 Welsh Government / Cadw have repeatedly requested that the Applicant consider reinstatement of the Kitchen Garden and the site of the former Cestyll House to their former locations. The Kitchen Garden is outside of the operational boundary of the Power Station site (i.e. the land is only needed for the temporary laydown area during construction), therefore, Cadw / Welsh Government see no reason why the site cannot be re-profiled and landscaped in a sympathetic manner to ensure there is appropriate connectivity between the key parts of the registered park and garden.
- 3.1.4 It is Welsh Government / Cadw's current position that Horizon have not committed to any mitigation that would reduce the substantial harm to Cestyll Gardens during the construction of the Wylfa Newydd development.

Yours sincerely,

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