



Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station Project Team  
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy  
c/o the Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
Bristol

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Date: 19th December 2019

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Application by Horizon Nuclear Power Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the proposed Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station, Isle of Anglesey, North Wales**

**Response to request for information and comments by the Secretary of State**

We are writing in response to your letter of 23 October 2019, requesting information and comments on the application for a development consent order by Horizon Nuclear Power (HNP) for the proposed Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station. Our response on behalf of ONR and HSE follows the topic headings in your letter.

**Licences and Consents (including Marine Licences and Operational Combustion Installations permits)**

The HNP organisation was effectively disbanded, following the decision to suspend the project on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019. ONR was in the process of assessing the HNP application when it was withdrawn, but had not completed the process, nor reached a decision with regard to granting a Nuclear Site Licence (NSL).

ONR's written representation to the Planning Inspectorate (REP2-355), submitted on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (copy attached) sets out the work done up to the suspension of the project and those areas where work was in progress. This was produced only a month before the project was suspended. ONR concluded that "...we have not so far identified any fundamental shortcomings that we consider should present the grant of a nuclear site licence to HNP for the Wylfa Newydd site in due course, or to subsequently permit the commencement of nuclear construction." ONR anticipated, subject to successful completion of the assessment process, that a nuclear site licence would be granted in October 2019.

If the project were to be re-started, HNP would have to re-establish the licensable organisation and this would have to be verified by ONR to ensure it meets regulatory expectations. If there were significant changes to the organisation from those in the original NSL application, ONR's assessment process will take longer than was planned for the original application. If the project was restarted with a new licensee the new applicant would have to develop and submit a NSL application dossier in accordance with our guidance – <http://www.onr.org.uk/licensing-nuclear-installations.pdf>.

This would be treated as a completely separate application from the one originally submitted and it is unlikely that any previous assessment work would be relevant.



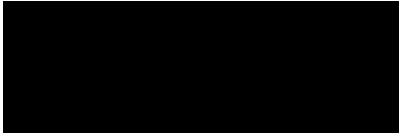
## **Representations of the Government of the Republic of Ireland under the Espoo Convention**

As stated in our written representation, ONR carried out a Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the United Kingdom Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (UKABWR) design proposed for the Wylfa Newydd power station. ONR granted a Design Acceptance Confirmation (DAC) in December 2017. The DAC confirms that, on a site bounded by the generic site envelope, the design could be built and operated safely (subject to site specific assessment and licensing).

A Euratom Article 37 hearing was held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018, specifically to consider the possibility of a nuclear release and the possible effects on other EU member states. An ONR inspector attended and was able to give clarification on a point raised by the Expert Panel (the Article 37 submission is made by DBEIS, not ONR). The panel subsequently gave a positive opinion on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

ONR's position remains as it was in December 2018. If you require any further information concerning the Wylfa Newydd project, please contact this office.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Michael Finnerty  
Deputy Chief Nuclear Inspector & New Reactors Director

### **Distribution List:**

P Harvey      HSE