

Our plans for new nuclear power at Oldbury

News from E.ON

Extensive experience brought to the JV's top job

Chief appointed to head joint venture

E.ON and RWE npower have appointed Alan Raymant as the new Chief Operating Officer for the companies' nuclear joint venture (JV).

Alan was previously Director of Operations and Asset Management at Central Networks, E.ON's electricity distribution business in the UK and has extensive experience within the company's generation business - including heading up its renewables portfolio.

The name for the new JV company will be announced shortly and it will be under this new name that plans for a new nuclear power station at Oldbury will be developed in the future.

"Our JV is being set up at a pivotal time for energy generation in the UK as we address the need for secure, low carbon energy available to everyone at an affordable price," said Alan, on a recent visit to the site at Oldbury. "With around a third of the country's power stations due to close over the next few years, new nuclear energy has a vital role to play in meeting the country's future energy needs. It is a constant, safe and reliable source of low-carbon energy that will help us to meet the Government's targets in cutting CO₂ emissions to limit the effects of climate change."

The JV aims to deliver at least 6GW of new nuclear capacity in the UK by 2025 and has secured land at Wylfa on Anglesey in addition to land at Oldbury. Between them,



...a new nuclear power station at Oldbury would create considerable long-term employment opportunities...

Alan Raymant
Chief Operating Officer,
Joint Venture

E.ON and RWE already jointly own three reactors in Germany and have stakes in 17 nuclear power stations around the world. "Building a new nuclear power station at Oldbury would create considerable

employment opportunities both during construction and through-out the working life of the new station.

"And there would also be opportunities for local businesses and services to support the running of the new plant," added Alan. The team currently working on developing plans for Oldbury, many of whom have been involved with our engagement activity over the last few months, will stay the same. They will work closely with the existing RWE npower team working on Wylfa to ensure knowledge sharing and best practice.

Welcome to our second newsletter keeping you up to date with plans for new nuclear power generation at Oldbury.



Public exhibitions coming your way this autumn
see back page



Site list set to be published

This autumn the Government is scheduled to publish its draft National Policy Statement (NPS) on future nuclear development in England & Wales. This will include a list of sites that it considers to be strategically suitable for new nuclear build by 2025.

Following this publication, there will be a public consultation period which will include a series of national and local events to be held by the Government. Parliamentary scrutiny of the proposals will follow, including consideration of the feedback received.

A finalised NPS is subsequently expected in Spring/Summer 2010. For more information go to nuclearpowersiting.decc.gov.uk

Derick's role is wide ranging



A mechanical engineer with over 25 years' experience in the energy sector, Site Development Manager Derick Cottell has wide ranging responsibilities in developing a possible new nuclear power station at Oldbury.

"I think it's true to say that my role requires me to look at all the site specific aspects of our plans for the site," he said.

"This means I am involved in issues ranging from ground investigations to overseeing the studies we have initiated on the site's archaeology, ecology and transport as well as issues such as flood risk.

"One of my team's current areas of focus is a study into the cooling tower options for the new plant. Whichever reactor design is eventually selected for the site – the Westinghouse AP1000 or Areva EPR – cooling towers will be required."

Derick and his team are evaluating various cooling tower systems that might be used in the future. This includes looking at the number of towers that may be required at Oldbury as well as height, shape and visual impact.

"We are liaising with statutory groups including the Environment Agency and Natural England as well as South Gloucestershire Council on their views as part of the evaluation process."

A transport options study is another aspect of the development that Derick's team are currently busy with. This looks at the alternatives for bringing construction materials and construction workers to the



Derick shows Alan Raymant the proposed development site at Oldbury.


site while minimising disruption for local people.

"One possible way of reducing the transport of materials by road is to build a dedicated marine offloading facility (MOF) in the estuary adjacent to the site," said Derick.

This would provide an effective and sustainable means of transporting plant and materials, especially as some of the components will be very large.

"We will also be looking at alternative road access options to the site and requirements for local road improvements.

"It will be early next year before our cooling tower study and transport options studies are completed and we will, of course, be consulting with the public on the findings."

 ...involved in issues ranging from archeology and ground investigations to transport and environmental impacts. Derick Cottell, site development manager

Next steps

Government activity

AUTUMN 2009

- Infrastructure Planning Commission opens
- Government publishes draft National Policy Statement (NPS)

WINTER 2009

- National and local public consultation on NPS starts

E.ON activity (as part of JV with RWE Npower)

- Submission of planning applications for compound
- Submission of Environmental Scoping Report to IPC
- Public exhibitions in Oldbury region

Site works

The first phase of ground investigation (GI) work which started on land we own earlier this year is expected to be completed shortly. The wet conditions over the summer months have resulted in this initial phase of work taking longer than anticipated.

Seismic investigations were carried out first, followed by borehole drilling at points across the proposed development area. These GI studies, allowed under permitted development rights, have been carried out by Almondsbury-based company Hydrock and were discussed in advance in detail with South Gloucestershire Council as well as Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency (EA).

We have also carried out some preliminary examinations of the flood defences. This work required the drilling of small boreholes at a number of locations along the bank, and has taken place with a license granted by the EA.



Photograph courtesy of Hydrock

Update on environmental scoping

We are producing an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report.

This allows us to share, at the earliest possible stage, our views on the likely key environmental impacts of a proposed new

nuclear power station at Oldbury.

Before the main body of the EIA work commences it is usual to seek an EIA Scoping Opinion - in this case from the Government's newly-formed Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC). The IPC will consult formally with a number of statutory bodies before responding. Our Scoping Report assists in this process by setting out the topics and issues that will be covered in our EIA and Environmental Statement.

To help produce this report, we have held discussions with a number of statutory and non-statutory groups, including South Gloucestershire Council, Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage. They will receive a copy of the Scoping Report as will other local groups including parish councils. It will also be available to view on our website.

Copies of the Scoping Report will be available at our forthcoming exhibitions and we will be on hand if you have any questions.

Feedback we receive will help in our preparation of an EIA and Environmental Statement which would accompany any future planning application. Details how to submit comments are outlined in the Scoping Report.

The design of the proposed power station is proceeding in parallel with the work carried out for the Scoping Report and will also be informed by the environmental information emerging through the EIA as well as through our public consultation activity.



Our Scoping Report sets out the environmental topics and issues requiring further study.

Contact us:

on our freephone number:

0800 130 3125

or by email at

oldburyenquiries@eon-uk.com

Further information can also be found at: **eon-uk.com/oldbury**

The new IPC process

Oldbury would need to appear on the Government's Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS) before any planning application could be made to the newly formed Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC). The IPC has been set up to improve the efficiency and transparency of the planning process for major infrastructure projects.

We are committed to engaging with local people throughout the development of the proposed new power station, and public consultation forms a key part of the new IPC process.

In line with that process we are preparing a Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) which will set out how we plan to carry out future public consultation. This will be discussed and agreed with the relevant local authorities.

In the meantime, we are always keen to hear from you on our proposals for new nuclear build and on how we can improve the communication process.

Retaining the compound will minimise disruption



Contractors' compound.

As you may have read in the local press, we have submitted a planning application to retain, for a limited period, the contractors' compound established earlier this year at Jobs Green Farm.

The temporary compound, created under permitted development rights, includes hard standing, fencing, gates and portacabins. It is

used as a base by contractors working on the site for the ground investigation works.

Retaining the compound is the most sustainable option as stone for the hardstanding can remain in situ rather than being replaced each time we carry out future investigation. This approach will also reduce the number of lorries accessing the site,

which we know has been a concern for local people. Over the coming years we plan to use the compound as a base for archaeological investigations and, ecological and engineering surveys required for the EIA. Formal planning approval will not alter the temporary nature of the compound but will help minimise disruption in the area.

■ **Caring for the land and property we now own at Oldbury is a responsibility that we take very seriously and we are pleased that we have been able to lease agricultural land and buildings as well as homes back to tenants. We are currently liaising with English Heritage and South Gloucestershire Council on structural improvements that may be required to former farm buildings at Jobs Green Farm.**



We have taken precautions to secure the compound and buildings we own on the site out of hours. We know from experience that such locations can be of interest, especially to youngsters and we are particularly concerned about teenagers who may place themselves at risk by attempting to enter empty properties. We urge all local parents to remind their children that such sites are not playgrounds. They often contain dangerous equipment and/or buildings may be unsafe. No one should enter uninvited and unsupervised. Please stay safe.

Exhibitions are an opportunity for feedback

We are holding a further round of public exhibitions this autumn to update the public on the development of our plans for Oldbury and we are keen to receive feedback from the local community at each stage in the process.

Our exhibitions will include information on the issues we intend to address as part of any future Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The EIA will form a key part of any subsequent planning submission to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

Exhibition Schedule: Autumn 2009

OLDBURY: Saturday 21 November – from 10am-6pm. **Venue:** Oldbury-on-Severn Memorial Hall, 13 Camp Road, Oldbury-on-Severn, BS35 1PT

BERKELEY: Tuesday 24th November – from 12pm-8pm. **Venue:** Town Hall, Salter Street, Berkeley, Gloucestershire, GL13 9DB

STROUD: Thursday 26th November – from 12pm-8pm. **Venue:** The Old Town Hall, High Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 1AP

THORNBURY: Saturday 28th November – from 10am-6pm. **Venue:** Cossham Hall, Armstrong Hall complex, Chapel Street, Thornbury, BS35 2BJ

LYDNEY: Tuesday 1st December – from 12pm-8pm. **Venue:** Lydney Town Hall, High Street, Lydney, Gloucestershire GL15 5DY

CHEPSTOW: Thursday 3rd December – from 12pm-8pm. **Venue:** Drill Hall, Lower Church Street, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP16 5HJ

For more information on the venues, including directions, please go to: eon-uk.com/oldbury

Contact us

If you have any queries or have issues you would like to raise with us please call our free phone number:

0800 130 3125

or contact us at oldburyenquiries@eon-uk.com

Further information can also be found at:

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