



8 November 2011

## **NuGen receives planning permission for preliminary site investigation and characterisation works**

NuGen, the UK nuclear company aiming to develop a new nuclear power station in West Cumbria today welcomed Copeland Borough Council's approval of an application to begin site characterisation.

The council has approved a preliminary phase of temporary site investigation and characterisation works on the land NuGen has an option to purchase for a planned 3.6GW generating station.

The permission means site characterisation work can now commence on schedule. The purpose of the preliminary work is to investigate the geotechnical, geophysical, radiological, chemical and seismic conditions of the land and to determine which part of the available land will be most suitable for a nuclear power station.

Alfio Vidal, Chief Nuclear Director of NuGen said: "We are delighted by the positive decision from Copeland Borough Council to grant NuGen planning permission for early site works. This marks a significant step forward in our plans to develop a new nuclear power station."

"We will use these investigations to determine which part of the land in our option is best-suited for the construction of a nuclear power station."

Olivier Carret, Chief Operating Director for Nugen said: "We welcome this approval from the council. We will work hard to ensure the work is carried out with great care for the land and we will minimise impact on our neighbours."



“We will continue to put local engagement at the forefront of what we do. NuGen is totally committed to working in partnership with the local community and other interested stakeholders to ensure they are kept fully informed of our plans.”

The temporary site investigation and characterisation works - which are being led by a consortium between IBERDROLA Ingeniería y construcción and Tractebel Engineering, part of the GDF SUEZ Group - are due to be completed during 2013. The work is not expected to be highly visible and will be carried out with absolute care for the land and environment and in a way that minimises any disruption to local residents.

NuGen, which has offices at Westlakes Science and Technology Park at Whitehaven in West Cumbria, is planning a series of stakeholder meetings starting with parish councils closest to the proposed development. The company has also produced an in-depth brochure on the scope and detail of the site characterisation work.

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### ***Notes to editors***

In February 2009, GDF SUEZ and IBERDROLA entered a partnership to jointly participate in the development of new nuclear power stations in the UK.

On the 28 October 2009, the consortium announced that it had been successful in securing an option to purchase land for the development of a new nuclear power



station near Sellafield on the West Cumbrian coast from the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority ('NDA'), for a total cash consideration of £70m.

On 24 June 2011, the UK government confirmed through its National Policy Statement, that NuGen's site was suitable for a new nuclear power station. The joint-venture now intends to prepare detailed plans for developing the site, which will be submitted for consideration by the relevant planning authorities with the aim of a final investment decision being taken around 2015. These plans will be prepared in full consultation with the safety authorities and local stakeholders. On this basis, the expectation is that any new power station would be commissioned around 2023.

This NuGen team is headed by Alfio Vidal and Olivier Carret as the Executive Directors of NuGeneration Ltd.

Olivier Carret is Chief Operating Director and has responsibility for all corporate and support services. Olivier Carret has over 30 years' experience in the Electricity and Gas Industry. He joined the consortium from GDF SUEZ, where he held various positions including Director of Operations and Director of Asset Management. Before joining GDF SUEZ in 2000, he had spent 6 years in the US where he was involved in the development of a number of international projects.

Alfio Vidal is Chief Nuclear Director and has responsibility for all the technical and financial aspects of the project. Alfio Vidal was previously Head of Safety for IBERDROLA's Spanish nuclear fleet. He has broad experience in the nuclear energy field having held various positions, including Plant Manager of Cofrentes NPP, a 1,092 MW nuclear plant near Valencia in Spain.