



9th September 2011

NuGen submits planning application for early temporary site investigation and characterisation works

NuGen has today submitted an application for planning consent to commence a preliminary phase of temporary site investigation and characterisation works on the land it has an option to purchase for a new nuclear power station on the West Cumbrian coast.

The work, which NuGen hopes to begin in the last quarter of 2011, is the first step of the full site characterisation works, which are required to confirm the suitability of the site. The preliminary phase of temporary site investigation and characterisation works follow on from an extensive programme of desktop baseline studies.

The purpose of 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 - is to investigate the geotechnical, geological, seismic, radiological and chemical conditions of the land and to start determining which part of the option land is most suitable for the development of a nuclear power station.

Alfio Vidal, Chief Nuclear Director of NuGen said: “We have submitted our planning application to Copeland Borough Council and we will only commence work once we have all of the necessary approvals in place.

“We remain absolutely committed to working in partnership with the local community and we have been talking to the tenants on the proposed site about the planned works and will also be ensuring that information is available to local residents and other interested stakeholders.

“The temporary site investigation and characterisation works are not expected to be highly visible and our contractors, who have yet to be appointed, will carry out the work with absolute care for the land and environment and in a way that minimises any disruption.”

Leader of Copeland Council, Elaine Woodburn, said: “We are pleased to be working with NuGen and it is great news that things are moving forward in this significant way. There is obviously a long road ahead but this is a solid start. We know Copeland and its people have the world class skills and experience to help new build become a successful reality, and we will continue to work towards that.”

All physical temporary site investigation and characterisation works are expected to be completed by 2013.

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Notes to Editors:

- NuGeneration Ltd (NuGen) is a UK based consortium of GDF SUEZ, IBERDROLA and Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE). On 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 of up to 3.6GW on the West Cumbrian coast from the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).
- In June 2011, the UK Government published the National Policy Statement on Nuclear and confirmed that NuGen's site was suitable for a new nuclear power station. NuGen is now preparing 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. The expectation is that any new power station would be commissioned around 2023.
- NuGen is a strong partnership with extensive experience of operating almost 10,000 MW of nuclear capacity across Europe, as well as developing and operating thermal and renewable power stations in the UK. The consortium partners have more than 250,000 employees worldwide, with almost 40,000 employees in the UK.
- The preliminary phase of temporary site investigation and characterisation works will include:
 - **Geotechnical, geological and hydrogeological investigations** to obtain further knowledge of the ground conditions and location of the bedrock. This will be determined through drilling boreholes (up to 150m) and sampling, in situ testing, field geophysical measurements, hydrogeological monitoring and laboratory testing.
 - **Radiological characterisation and chemical analysis** using surface radiological mapping and sampling and testing of samples taken from the boreholes. It is important to note that no significant contamination is expected to be found on the option land but confirmation of this is part of NuGen's obligations as a nuclear developer.
- A briefing note with further information on the planned temporary site investigation and characterisation works is available on request from news@nugeneration.com or to find out more about NuGen visit the web site www.nugeneration.com