

# HIA of the Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Plant

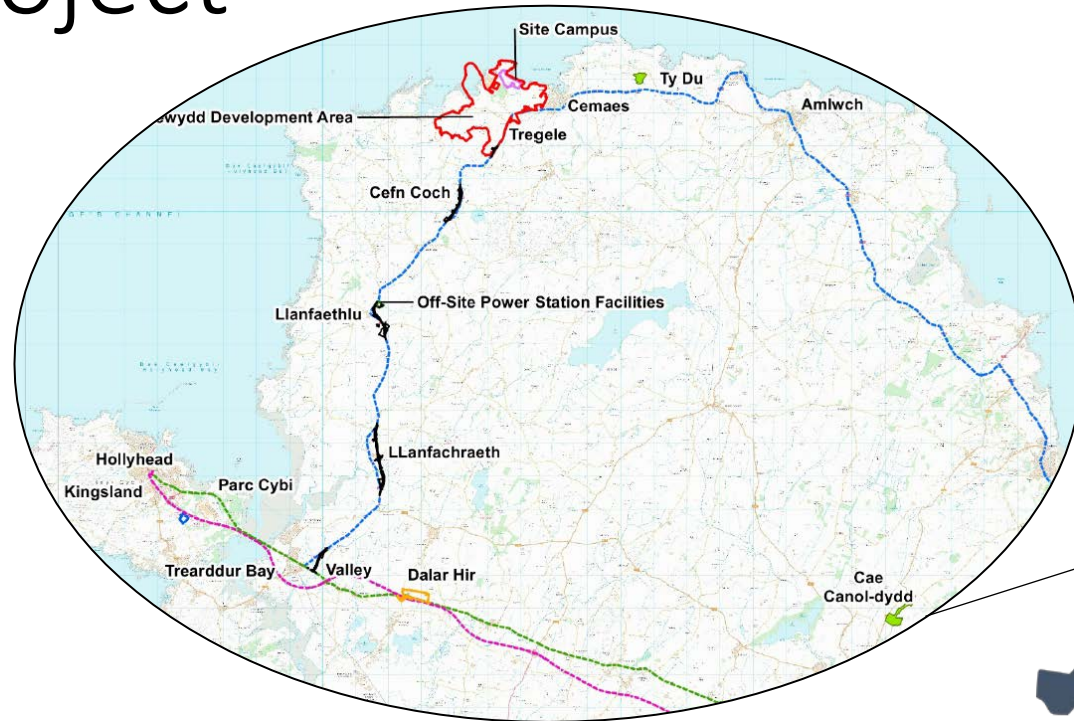
Ben Cave, Ben Cave Associates Ltd

Liz Green, Public Health Wales



# Wylfa Newydd Project

- A proposed new nuclear power station, including two UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactors (UK ABWRs) to be supplied by Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy Ltd., supporting facilities, buildings, plant and structures, and radioactive waste, spent fuel storage buildings and apparatus to transfer electrical energy to the National Grid high voltage electricity transmission network



The background of the slide is a hand-drawn illustration of red curtains with yellow bows at the bottom corners. The curtains are drawn back, revealing a white space where the text is located.

The cast (an incomplete list):

- Public Health Wales
- Betsi Cadwaladr NHS University Health Board
- Isle of Anglesey County Council
- Welsh Government
- Horizon Nuclear Power (the Developer)
- EIA consultants
- HIA team

# Roles

## Public Health Wales

- Draft the HIA outline and Tender Brief for the commissioners of the HIA
- Provide independent advice and guidance to the Steering Group and consultants in relation to the HIA and its process and contents
- Independently quality assured and reviewed all reports and evidence sent to the Steering Group
- Feedback and review as part of WHIASU and also PHW's integrated response
- Provided consistency and uniformity as part of the SG

## Ben Cave Associates Ltd (HIA team)

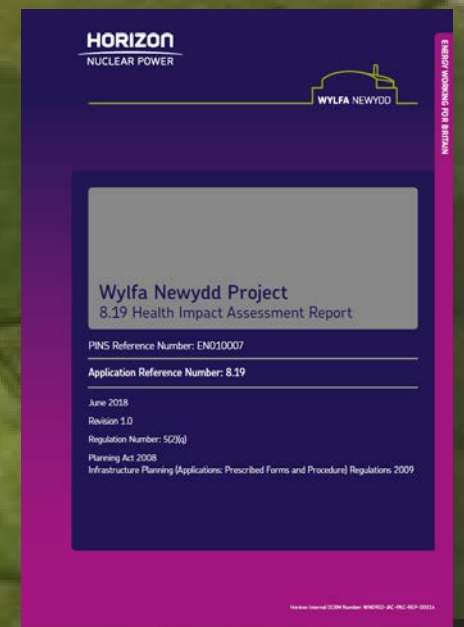
- Prepare the HIA documents for each consultation stage and for the final submission.
- Provide independent advice to the developer on matters relating to health and wellbeing.
- Assist the developer in designing measures for mitigation.
- Liaise with health stakeholders.



# HIA scope

- Air quality
- Noise
- Housing
- Transport
- Demand for medical and healthcare services
- Lifestyle and behaviour
- Community identity, social networks and culture
- Employment, income and economic development
- Education and training
- Physical activity
- Public understanding of risk
- Energy generation demand and affordability
- Energy generation: low carbon technology

[https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010007/EN010007-001739-8.19%20Health%20Impact%20Assessment%20Report%20\(Rev%201.0\).pdf](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010007/EN010007-001739-8.19%20Health%20Impact%20Assessment%20Report%20(Rev%201.0).pdf)



**HORIZON NUCLEAR**

# Public Health Wales

## Opportunities

- Build in wider determinants of health and inequalities focus to the HIA to influence better health for the local population and the workers at the outset
- Ability to influence the process including the Scoping Opinion in an iterative way
- Be part of a complex, technical and politically challenging HIA process from start to end

## Challenges

- Needed to be clear with some SG members what consultants were required to do and guidelines required to follow i.e. COMEAP rather than WHO
- Extremely time intensive to review ALL the documents drafted and amended as part of the HIA
- Timeframes: Started process in 2010 – still discussions in 2019
- Changes in policy, political and financial circumstances



# Ben Cave Associates Ltd (HIA team)

## Opportunities

- Comprehensive coverage of health and wellbeing and the support of the developer.
- Proactive input from the public sector – good capacity to respond to the developer and the assessment.

## Challenges

- The importance of scoping: the scoping was robust. Items outside the scope occupied the most time once the assessment was complete. These had been
  - scoped out – understanding had changed;
  - scoped in – but a shared understanding had not been reached.

# Reflections

## Public Health Wales

- Building in health and well-being and population emphasis at the start provided solid foundations for the HIA
- Good relationships between the Consultants and the SG were key
- The HIA was carried out over a long period of time – led to changes in policy, people, context, understanding and emphasis
- Excellent HIA carried out but needed support of commissioning company and people to do this

## Ben Cave Associates Ltd (HIA team)

- Good relations and clear communication very important.
  - With external health stakeholders
  - With the developer and the other consultants
- Trust between parties is fundamental.
- Genuine desire on behalf of all parties to ‘do good’.