

DIARY CASE



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

PREAMBLE

Who is the Minister meeting?	Cwmni Egino <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alan Raymant - CEO of Cwmni Egino• John Idris Jones - Chair
Who requested the meeting?	Stakeholder
Primary purpose	To brief the Minister on recent progress made by Cwmni Egino
Is there an agreed agenda?	No
Which officials are supporting the Minister?	Attending Official - Duncan Hamer – Director of Operations, Business & Regions Brief prepared by Wyn Roberts
Where is the meeting?	Tŷ Hywel
Other practical considerations	N/A

DIARY CASE BRIEFING

Purpose

The meeting has been arranged to enable Cwmni Egino to update you on the company's objectives and how we can get commitment from UK Government for Cwmni Egino to facilitate development at the Trawsfynydd site.

The meeting is particularly timely given the announcement made on 20 May 2022 by the UK Government concerning the joint working outlined by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and Cwmni Egino on proposals for the siting of a new nuclear development at Trawsfynydd.

Current position and issues to note

Cwmni Egino (CE) was established in 2021 by Welsh Government to deliver a site development plan for Trawsfynydd, focused on socio-economic growth. Since then, there has been an increased policy focus on new nuclear power generation as a means of delivering net zero and increasing energy security. CE have defined an ambitious vision to achieve both aims:

'By 2027, Trawsfynydd will be the site of the first SMR/AMR under construction in the UK; North Wales will be recognised as a centre of excellence for low carbon energy; and people's quality of life will be improved.'

CE need to work in collaboration with NDA who own the land and Magnox and operate part of the site. They have proposed a collaboration agreement with them and still await their formal response. However, the announcement made on 20 May by BEIS appears to indicate that the NDA has been given the green light to discuss how they can practically assist in moving the SMR agenda forward at Trawsfynydd, which is positive news.

CE has recently produced its Strategic Plan which outlines the company's requirements to reach the end of Stage 1 in the next 12 months, as well as what is required to reach a successful final investment decision at the end of Stage 3 (i.e. the point at which a Final Investment Decision would be made). The ten objectives build on the basics of the Welsh Government's Remit Letter for 2022/23.

The first stage is to confirm the business proposition for Trawsfynydd, that it is viable, and that it has good prospects for successful delivery. CE intend to complete Stage 1 by the end of March 2023 together with the business plan for the second stage of development in 2023/24.

Welsh Government has a critical role both as CE's sponsor and shareholder in the relationship with BEIS, to ensure CE receives the focus and attention needed to deliver a successful project. Despite the increased focus on new nuclear, delivery remains challenging and uncertain. Therefore, CE plans to follow a staged approached to development, matching investment with increased certainty and are to some extent seeking assurance that Welsh Government are content with the approach and supportive of the outlined strategy.

On a more specific issues, CE may also wish to raise a point around the need to better understand the current and future capability of the supply chain in Wales in order to plan how best to engage with it. CE is keen to explore how the successful SMR technology vendor and developer at Trawsfynydd once selected, may work with the supply chain from the outset. CE may wish to seek Welsh Government support and input into a plan of action that optimises supply chain opportunities.

Points to make

1. We welcome the publication of the Strategic Plan. It meets our Remit Letter expectations and goes well beyond in terms of detail around vision and delivery. We look forward to supporting Cwmni Egino as it moves forward to a collaborative working relationship with the NDA/Magnox and BEIS. A formal response will be sent by officials in due course.
2. With reference to the supply chain, we recognise that there are opportunities to shape and set the developer/contractor relationship right from the beginning to maximise prospects of the Welsh supply chain playing as prominent a part in delivery as it is capable. Officials will be pleased to work with CE on developing a supply chain strategy to maximise the value of future expenditure within Wales.