

## Meeting Note – Ministerial Update Meeting with Cwmni Eginio

**Date:** 30 January 2023 14:15-14:45

**Venue:** Pen y Fan Room, London Office and Virtually (V)

**Present:** Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for Economy (V)  
Alex Bevan, Ministerial Special Adviser (V)  
Alan Raymant, Cwmni Eginio, CEO  
John Idris Jones, Cwmni Eginio, Chair  
Elliw Williams, Cwmni Eginio, Head of Stakeholder Engagement

**Officials:** Duncan Hamer, Director of Operations, Business& Regions, ETC (V);  
Wyn Roberts, Head of Nuclear, Welsh Government

- The meeting was arranged following a letter to the Minister on 20 December 2022 from John Idris Jones, Chair of Cwmni Eginio requesting a meeting to update on Cwmni Eginio (CE) progress and on the potential, future co-funding with BEIS/Great British Nuclear.
- AR provided a brief update on CE's progress and relayed details of recent discussions with BEIS regarding the potential role of Great British Nuclear (GBN) in supporting CE during Phase 2 of its project development.
- He stressed the need for support from WG in pushing UK Government to unlock discussions with senior officials to move Trawsfynydd forwards as the lead SMR site within the UK. He emphasised Trawsfynydd's potential to be both a first of a kind SMR project and site pathfinder, but strong support is needed to ensure that the project and site make it to the top of the GBN list from its outset.
- AR also stressed that without funding being secured for Phase 2 in the near future (6 months), there is a danger that staff on 2-year contracts will begin to seek out new employment elsewhere.
- Minister agreed the need for a plan of delivery with respect to BEIS/GBN engagement and that we aim to secure a further contract term for staff. We also need to line up supporters/stakeholders to lobby on behalf of the project with BEIS SoS and Ministers and their Senior Civil Servants.
- It was noted that Beatrice Kilroy-Nolan became the new Director General for Trade and Opportunities in BEIS recently while Lee McDonough has assumed the Director General for Net Zero, Nuclear and International role. These are likely to be influential with GBN and it is suggested that Andrew Slade is briefed in advance of future meetings with his DG colleagues.

- While not scheduled for some time, the Minister also stated that he would raise Trawsfynydd as a key project at the next quadrilateral meeting with UK Government Ministerial colleagues.

## **ACTIONS**

- 1. CE to engage with a list of project stakeholders (local and national) to urge their support in lobbying BEIS for Trawsfynydd's inclusion on GBN's of priority projects;***
- 2. Officials to draft a letter for Minister to send to SoS BEIS to similarly request SoS support for Trawsfynydd at a time deemed appropriate by Cwmni Egin.***

## **Minute taker:**

Name : Wyn Roberts

Date : 01/02/2023