Flamanville EPR: optimised project management and a new timetable

Dear Colleague,

I would like to update you on an announcement EDF Group has made today on our nuclear new build project at Flamanville. Our Chairman Jean-Bernard Lévy has announced the outcome of a full review and confirmed his commitment to the project. He said, “I have reviewed the Flamanville EPR project in detail, and I am absolutely confident that it will be a success. It is a priority for EDF and of critical importance for the French nuclear industry and its success internationally.”

This announcement demonstrates EDF’s total commitment to the Flamanville EPR project and confidence in its success. It demonstrates our conviction that new nuclear is a key part of the solution to achieving the vital transition to low-carbon energy, alongside renewables. EDF has confirmed a new project organisation at Flamanville, and a target of first fuel loading and start-up of the reactor in the fourth quarter of 2018.

As you know, EDF’s commitment to new nuclear power is equally strong here in the UK. Our planned 2 EPRs at Hinkley Point C, followed by 2 EPRs at Sizewell C, together will power 10 million homes with low-carbon electricity. These plans are steadily progressing. With the UK Government and our partners, we are pursuing a Final Investment Decision for Hinkley Point C as soon as possible.

Hinkley Point C has been set-up for success from the start. We have ensured a stable reactor design from an early stage in the project, and received approval for the design from the UK regulator in 2012 following its rigorous Generic Design Assessment process. No alternative reactor designs have yet done this. Construction planning has been made more efficient by involving our contractors at an early stage, and by using innovative 4D modelling to help plan the construction of the power station.

We have also benefitted from the lessons learned at Flamanville, and other EPR projects, including Taishan in China. For Hinkley Point C, EDF’s team brings together experience, skills and project management gained from other successful large UK infrastructure projects, including the London 2012 Olympics and Heathrow Terminal 5, as well as international experience in nuclear new build.

EDF Group and its partners are taking all the construction risk of delivering this project. UK consumers are protected though the Contract for Difference that fixes the price for the electricity. The costs of two EPR reactors at Hinkley Point C are clear and stable since our agreement with the Government in October 2013. Since then, the contract has undergone thorough due diligence by HM Treasury, DECC, and investors, and received State Aid clearance from the European Commission in October 2014.

I am confident in the important role of new nuclear power in our low-carbon future. It is unique in its ability to underpin a stable energy system, working alongside a mix of technologies, including renewables. It offers good value to consumers and will provide secure supplies of low-carbon electricity for 60 years. Hinkley Point C, followed by Sizewell C, will start a nuclear renaissance in the UK, and I look forward to updating you further on this soon.

Like our Chairman, I am confident that Hinkley Point C is necessary, good value for money and set for success. If you would like to discuss this or have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

**Nigel Cann**

Site Construction Director, Hinkley Point C