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Reactor assessment continues to progress

March 31, 2014 – Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy, Ltd. (Hitachi-GE) today marked another step forward in the regulatory assessment of the UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR), with publication of a suite of technical documents.

These documents mark a further step forward towards publication of the pre-construction safety report, a major milestone which the company expects to reach later this year.

Hitachi-GE has formally submitted these Preliminary Safety Reports (PSR) to regulators, and today published several papers on the company's dedicated technology website for the UK ABWR - www.hitachi-hgne-uk-abwr.co.uk. The PSR documents give preliminary information on the overall safety of the reactor design, and further technology updates will continue to be made available over the coming months.

Hitachi-GE is the reactor provider and lead contractor to Horizon Nuclear Power, who are planning to provide at least 5,400MW of new nuclear capacity to the UK.

General Manager, Licensing, Hitachi Europe Ltd. for Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy, Mr Ken Sato said: "This is another step forward in the GDA, and shows we are making good progress since we moved to Step 2 at the start of this year. With continuing progress towards the PCSR and beyond, we remain optimistic that we can see completion of GDA before the end of 2017."

"This is rightly a thorough and rigorous assessment, but the ABWR is a proven design – the only Generation III+ operational anywhere in the world – and we believe it can play a significant role in the UK's future energy mix".

He went on to say: “Deployment of the UK ABWR will create thousands of jobs throughout construction and operation. It will supply enough secure, sustainable and affordable energy to power many millions of British homes and businesses, and we look forward to working alongside British supply-chain partners as we progress towards development of the reactor”.

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Notes to editors:

- Hitachi-GE is the reactor provider and lead contractor to Horizon Nuclear Power. The company began a major phase of public and stakeholder engagement in January 2014, launching a new UK website dedicated to explaining the reactor technology and inviting comments on the design.
- Hitachi-GE’s Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) has been built at three sites already (four units), and is licensed in three countries around the world. In spring 2013 Hitachi-GE signed assessment agreements with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and the Environment Agency, beginning the process of ‘Generic Design Assessment’.
- The PSR suite of documents comprises separate reports for each of the Assessment Topics identified by the Regulators and updates of the Reports issued at the end of Step 1. They provide a broad overview of the key features of the ABWR and form the basis for development of the design for the UK.
- The website gives the opportunity for submission of comments or questions on the design of the reactor, or on the submissions which Hitachi-GE has made to the regulators. This process is not designed to discuss Government policy around nuclear energy and does not overlap with the planning consents for Horizon’s proposed developments.
- The GDA process is led by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The regulators’ joint assessment website can be viewed at www.hse.gov.uk/newreactors.

About Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy, Ltd.

Hitachi-GE, a joint venture established by Hitachi, Ltd. and General Electric Company in July 2007, as one of the world's leading comprehensive plant manufacturers, engages in the development, planning, design, manufacture, inspection, installation, pre-operation, and maintenance of nuclear reactor-related equipment and is able to execute integrated project management. Hitachi-GE has been involved with 23 reactors in Japan to date, including those currently under construction. Among them, it has participated in all of Japan's Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) projects—four ABWRs are already operational and three are under construction. Overseas, it has supplied major nuclear reactor equipment for the Lungmen Nuclear Power Plant in Taiwan.

About Horizon Nuclear Power

Horizon Nuclear Power was formed in 2009 to develop new nuclear power stations in the UK. It was acquired by Hitachi Ltd of Japan in November 2012. The company is developing plans to build at least 5,400MW of new nuclear power generation plant at Wylfa on the Isle of Anglesey and Oldbury-on-Severn in South Gloucestershire. Its power station sites will employ up to 1000 people each once operational and a peak workforce of up to 6000 is expected during construction. For more information about Horizon, please visit www.horizonnuclearpower.com.