

HyBONT Project Kick-Off Meeting

10.00 – 11.00, 28/10/2022

Attending:

WG

[Welsh Government officials redacted section 40]

HyBONT

Marubeni Europower: , George Dodd, [redacted section 40]

MM: [Mott macdonald employee][redacted section 40]

RPS: [RPS employee][redacted section 40]

Challoch UK: [Challoch employee][redacted section 40]

Meeting Note

[Welsh Government officials][redacted section 40]

asked that BCBC as partner to be present in future meetings.

GD updated on the project since August and the PID supplied in late September (see slide deck in the clip) with subcontractors supplying additional narrative on their chapters of the How To Guide. In parallel GD noted the wider project BEIS NZ H2 Fund Strand 3 application had been submitted for OPEX and at the same time submitted they had also submitted plans to NEDO for the next detailed engineering phase .

In parallel the wider project Net zero Hy ph 3 application submitted for OPEX. At the same time submitted NEDO next phase for the detailed engineering phase .

HyBONT have had a further technical meeting to look at some specifics on drainage etc and working further on environmental impact assessment. Had a formal response that the proposal is **not EIA development**. Lessons learned from this process will feed into planning guide.

Lots of monitoring, risk assessments have been completed – there is a 28 day mandatory period for consultation on major developments.

Re Chapter2 and 4 – [Marubeni employees][redacted section 40]

(MM) said they have been out to market on prequal questions on electrolyser , H2 production facility supply and solar PV and had a good response. They are also developing engineering package informed by the surveying on the site; draft design for tendering is ready - allowing scope for modification if necessary.

SM commented on Chapter 3 re electrical connection (Challoch). Part 1 will be private wired from Bryncethin solar to Brynmenyn H2 . There are two options, the cheaper route does have landowners so they have a back up – it will all be underground through Bryncethin, which is a bit more expensive but shorter. They have also completed on constraint analysis . Part 2 is to get a back up connection from WPD (now NGED) asked for 10MVA from Llynfi Valley down through roads , 6 km to a point of coupling to site, 2 cables to ensure secure supply, and they are expecting a quote by 8 November. There is still work to finalising design and budget costing work. They are working on wayleaves, and the need to finalise grid connection route and paperwork was raised.

GD talked through the list of possible risks and challenges:

Planning

- Pre- Planning consultation overwhelming negative and , lack awareness, misconceptions etc. Risk of called in , BCBC – refused and resubmissions
- Licensing /permitting is protracted and could delay but they are advanced in thinking, due to the Phase 1 How to Guide.

Engineering stage

- EPC capex costs exceeds budget estimates
- Extended lead time on equipment would delay construction
- Design changes post EPC – escalating costs / delays

Implementation phase

- Poor performance of contractors
- Interface risk – e.g connections to utilities
- Major environmental or safety incident, key is choosing the right contractor to ensure this doesn't happen
- Commission delays beyond implementation date of 29 Sept 2025, so they would work to complete in advance of the date.
- Completed facility fails to meet min performance
- Changes to offtake agreement obligations

Private Wire:

- Wayleaves for Overhead route not obtained. Mitigation is the fully underground route in the highway
- One or both routes have Insurmountable challenges in the buried infrastructure. To date a detailed utility and constraints assessment has been undertaken and no issues have been identified
- Planning objections. Pre-app discussions have been positive
- Import delays and costs for equipment – this is highly unlikely for the private wire equipment

Grid Connection:

- Cost prohibitive. Budget quote for 5MVA was acceptable. Expected slightly higher price as now 10MVA, but should be okay
- Route is not possible – NGED are undertaking a detailed assessment and if not will propose an alternative
- Time to complete is elongated. Early discussions have indicated that the build period is within the window for the H2 facility development

Project status

GD said most areas were partially complete e.g. many surveys were complete but not all yet, and a submission made to WPD made but they have the statutory time to respond.

ACTIONS

1. HYBONT:

- For compliance to supply risk register as a chart with mitigation and status update.
- Invite BCBC rep to all future meetings as partner.
- Draw in other extra-project stakeholders as reference where appropriate
- Complete the risk register to include the mitigation as verbalised in meeting

2. WG:

- Supply connections for reference group invitations to LAs/coordinating bodies involved with other concurrent Welsh Green H2 production facility projects (Holyhead HH / Menter Môn(Anglesey CC; Budweiser/Protium, Magor; Statkraft, Trecwn).
- Supply standard project meeting agenda pro forma
- Liaise re HI-ACT (Cardiff University)

- Diary fortnightly meetings till end March 2023.