

Westinghouse Lauds UK Energy Announcement

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Westinghouse Electric Company welcomes the Government's announcement today on future UK energy policy, and the recognition that nuclear energy will continue to play a major role in helping the UK to ensure secure and affordable supplies of energy.

Westinghouse is particularly pleased to see the Government's recognition that nuclear energy, along with renewables and improved energy efficiency can make a significant contribution to tackling global climate change.

Westinghouse also supports the Government actions outlined today to help remove the key barriers to private sector funding for new nuclear plants. Westinghouse is now confident that utilities will come forward, wishing to discuss investment in new reactors, and the company is keen to work diligently to help make their plans a reality.

The Westinghouse AP1000 reactor -- one of the leading candidates for a series of new UK plants -- is the only Generation III+ design to receive Design Certification from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It is the reactor overwhelmingly preferred by US utilities -- having been selected for 12 out of 16 license applications so far announced. The design is also being considered for the four plants currently under tender in China, and is ready for selection in the UK.

The AP1000 is based on established PWR technology -- the most common type of reactor in operation around the world. Westinghouse plants have the largest operational experience base of any vendor, with around half of the world's 440 reactors based on Westinghouse technology.

Simplification is the key feature throughout the AP1000 design, making it:

- more compact and less complex
- even safer in operation, through the use of passive safety features, based on gravity and natural circulation
- easier to operate and maintain relative to plants in operation today, making it an ideal choice for a fleet of reactors in the UK.

Westinghouse has both a good understanding of the UK energy market and one of the leading contender designs for new nuclear plants, in the AP1000 reactor. The company looks forward to playing a major part in the UK's nuclear renaissance.

Westinghouse Electric Company is the world's pioneering nuclear power company and is a leading supplier of nuclear plant products and technologies to utilities throughout the world. Today, Westinghouse technology is the basis for approximately one-half of the world's operating nuclear plants.