



To: Greg Clark,
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and
Industrial Strategy

(by e-mail)

Gloucestershire Climate Action Network
[Affiliated to the Climate Coalition]

27 March 2017

Dear Mr Clark,

Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon Power Pilot Scheme

I am writing on behalf of the Steering Group of Gloucestershire Climate Action Network (www.GlosCAN.org) to add our voices to the many who are calling for a swift and positive response to the government-commissioned independent review of tidal lagoon technology by Charles Hendry.

Specifically, we wish to see a timely conclusion of negotiations on a guaranteed price for the electricity to be generated by the proposed Swansea Bay pilot scheme, thus ensuring that it goes ahead.

As people concerned about climate change, we are impressed that the Hendry Review's assessment (pages 27-29) concludes that tidal lagoon technology, alongside wind and nuclear, "are in a league of their own in terms of lifetime carbon emissions". Therefore, we would expect the guaranteed price for the Swansea Bay scheme's output to be similar to that agreed for Hinkley Point C.

Given the relatively small scale of the Swansea Bay scheme in comparison to Hinkley Point C, we trust that protracted price negotiations can be avoided.

We would be supporters of the project even without its strong Gloucestershire connections, but their existence is an additional motivator. The developer (Tidal Lagoon Power plc) is headquartered in Gloucester and the Gloucester MP Richard Graham (who suggested we should write to you) is to be commended for his advocacy of tidal lagoon technology. Moreover, tidal lagoon technology offers a lower risk and more repeatable approach to harnessing tidal energy than barrage technology, which when proposed for the River Severn estuary is understandably controversial in Gloucestershire.

We will be posting this communication on our website and encouraging our supporters to write to you in support. We look forward to hearing from you – with a positive response, we hope.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Richards,
Chair of GlosCAN Steering Group

Copied to: Richard Graham MP
Vaughan Webber, Secretary of GlosCAN Steering Group (info@GlosCAN.org)