

- Corlan Hafren Limited has been established to spearhead the development of The Severn Barrage, from Lavernock Point to Brean Down. The company, which is uniquely positioned to take the project forward, aims to be a focus for other organisations that wish to contribute to this ground-breaking scheme

- The company and its associates believe that, in principle, they can deliver the Severn Barrage as a viable project without investing significant public funds

- Corlan Hafren believes that The Severn Barrage will act as a catalyst for regeneration in Wales and south-west England, bringing substantial new, permanent jobs to the region and creating an internationally recognised centre of expertise in renewable energy provision and manufacture

- Corlan Hafren is committed to developing renewable energy solutions for the UK and to help towards delivering the country's 2020 and 2050 carbon reduction targets

- Corlan Hafren recognise the significant environmental challenges associated with The Severn Barrage. The importance minimising impacts and providing compensatory and mitigation measures as a responsible Member State of the European Union is at the heart of the group's objectives

- Corlan Hafren welcomes the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) feasibility report and will be reading the report with interest to determine how we can best support the Government in meeting our renewable energy obligations in times of austerity.

In response to the DECC's report on tidal energy options in the Severn Estuary, Corlan Hafren has published its own vision for The Severn Barrage – detailing its belief that, working with government, it can deliver the Severn Barrage as a viable project without investing significant public funds. As well as providing over 5 per cent of the UK's energy needs, the project would be a significant step towards delivering the country's 2020 and 2050 carbon reduction targets. Corlan Hafren director, Tony Pryor explains: "As the government strives to tackle the twin challenges of energy security and climate change targets, we're offering a way forward. With one of the largest tidal range in the world, the site has the potential to provide guaranteed energy output for well over a century. The projected 120-year lifespan of the Severn tidal barrage from Lavernock Point to Brean Down means the scheme also has the potential to provide an economic way to produce electricity (in terms of cost per kilowatt), as part of an appropriate mix of renewable energy sources."

By the 2020s, the Severn Barrage could be delivering energy to the National Grid. In a decade that promises plenty of change in terms of how energy is bought, sold, produced and consumed, energy from the barrage is likely to be fuelling an increasing number of low-energy heating and lighting devices, and electric vehicles, and making an important contribution to the government's proposed smart grid. Inherent flexibility within the proposed design will accommodate demand growth and can help to mitigate environmental concerns, within a national context. It provides a key component of a diversified, resilient and secure national 'green' energy strategy as a fully predictable natural energy source.

The project is also set to fuel regeneration in Wales and south-west England, bringing tens of thousands of new, permanent jobs to the region and creating an internationally recognised centre of expertise in renewable energy provision and manufacture. Additionally, it will enable

commercial and recreational opportunities and improved transport links to bring benefits to the area.

The time is right for The Severn Barrage. It is of national scale and importance fitting within the enabling policy framework set by government. This major private investment benefits the UK by delivering low carbon energy, linked to a smart grid, and replacing time-expired existing generation. It will indeed be the means for substantial job creation and regeneration in tough times.