

Women in Nuclear Global Executive Board exploring Somerset!

The WiN Global Executive Committee met at Hinkley Point C, Somerset, UK for a site tour and its October 2019 Executive Board meeting. The meeting comprised a small number of attendees due to other global commitments, but was exciting and productive none-the-less!



Attendees (L to R); Yoko Kobayashi, WiN Japan; Patricia Schindler, WiN France; Raquel Heredia Silva, WiN Mexico; Gabi Voigt, WiN Global President; Jack Gritt, WiN UK; Lidia Bosa, EDF Energy and WiN UK Western Manager

With our sincere thanks to EDF Energy NNB for kindly arranging a VIP tour around the site at Hinkley Point C. It was a great privileged to see the construction of the new plant, a hugely significant project for the UK and for the nuclear industry.

What felt notable, in addition to the amazing feat of engineering and construction taking place, was EDF Energy's commitment to the residents of the surrounding areas and to the environment.

We were treated to a running dialogue on the increased trade that the project has generated in the area, replacement window schemes for residents to minimise noise impact, bus services and travel planning to reduce the impact on the roads and infrastructure and many other initiatives to support local residents. In addition we saw bat bridges, bat barns, badger houses and the planting of the first trees, that will eventually total some 20,000! The facilities for the project teams were first class and the site seems to have considered everything to accommodate the large numbers of people needing to come to site to deliver the project. To summarise? Impressive!

Our personal thanks must go to **Lidia Bosa, Project Manager Site Operations and Regional Manager for the WiN UK Western team**, who went above and beyond to arrange this special visit for us. She navigated the logistical difficulties of bringing together people from across the world with ease and grace and we are so grateful for her commitment to making this visit happen. And we couldn't write this article without a special mention for **Simon Roberts our driver**. A wealth of facts and figures and clearly very passionate about the HPC project. He amused us with stories as well as providing details of the construction and engineering which he did with obvious pride. Thank you Lidia and Simon for making our site tour so memorable!

When we concluded the tour of the physical site, we were welcomed by **Steven Heard, Head of Construction Technical Support, Emma McDaid, Construction Delivery Lead and Derek Davies, MEH Alliance Skills Lead** who provided a fascinating presentation on the progress of the project and answered our numerous questions. We are hugely grateful for their time and energy – we definitely learnt a lot about the project, the site culture and the teams from them. We were particularly impressed by the project values and the extended conversation we had regarding the culture of the site and how the values were developed. The values are humility, respect, solidarity, positivity and clarity; we felt they were really meaningful and had great purpose and intent that could be converted to desired behaviours.

So as our day concluded, we retired to the Sedgemoor Campus, happy, tired and inspired to see our nuclear industry on its first step to major growth in the UK. Our Executive Board meeting convened the next day where we continued to talk enthusiastically about our tour of HPC and to progress development of WiN Global's strategy to engage and encourage more people to our great nuclear industry, especially women, who are much needed to address gender balance and to provide vital skills for a high performing industry.

We can't thank EDF Energy enough for accommodating our visit and again our special thanks to Lidia and Simon for making it a day to remember.

Until next time!

Jack Gritt BSc (Hons) CMath MIMA

President Women in Nuclear UK

Executive Board Member Women in Nuclear Global