



Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee

information

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How should Scottish radioactive waste policy develop?

Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) Scotland is holding this Friday an important seminar for Scottish councils on the Scottish Government's draft policy for higher activity radioactive waste management.

In January the Scottish Government launched a major consultation on its draft policy which advocated greater levels of 'disposal' of radioactive waste down to a maximum depth of 100 metres. The consultation closed in April 2010 and the NFLA provided a detailed submission to it, noting concern over the preference for disposal rather than retrievable storage.

The NFLA Scotland seminar on Friday at West Lothian Council's Civic Centre in Livingston will provide councillors and contaminated land officers with the opportunity to consider how the Scottish policy may develop over the future, and what key respondents to the policy have said.

The seminar will include presentations from 3 expert speakers:

- Professor Brian Clark from the independent Committee on Radioactive Waste Management will outline CoRWM's views on the draft Scottish policy and the way forward.
- Ian Fairlie, independent consultant to the Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances, will outline SCCORS views on the policy and how Councils should be involve din future discussions.
- Pete Roche, NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor, will outline the NFLA's key issues and concerns with the Scottish policy and how it would like to see the policy develop.

Attendees from Councils across Scotland will be allowed to discuss the policy and these presentations in an open forum. As well as NFLA Scotland members and officers, a number of councillors from SCCORS and Scottish nuclear Site Stakeholder Groups from Chapelcross, Hunterston and Dounreay.

NFLA Scotland Convenor Councillor Euan McLeod said:

"The future direction of Scottish radioactive waste management policy is critical to all Scottish Councils. With the Government so clearly opposed to new nuclear build, the priority now for Scotland remains what to do with the 60 year old nuclear legacy. The NFLA is concerned with the concept of 'disposal' rather than retrievable storage and hopes this seminar will provide further clarification. It emphasises as well the central role the NFLA plays in driving the nuclear policy debate in Scotland."

Ends

Further information

Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary 0161 234 3244 or 07771 930196

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES