



News from the Nuclear Free Local Authorities

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KEY WEBSITE LINKS:
<http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>
<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>
<http://www.kimointernational.org>

Mayors urge reievw of nuclear power

Both the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki made references to Japan moving away from its dependence on nuclear power, & instead seeking it to develop renewable energy, in their Annual Peace Declarations on the 66th anniversary of the atomic bombings.

The Peace Declarations

are the centrepiece of the moving ceremonies to remember the victims of the August 1945 atomic bombings. The Japanese Prime Minister also reiterated his desire to move Japan away from nuclear power.

Ceremonies were held around the world on the 6th and 9th August, including a number of



Councillor Mark Hackett reads out the Hiroshima Peace Declaration at Manchester's official commemoration of the 66th anniversary of the A-bombings.

civic events involving NFLA members.

Mayors for Peace now have 4892 members as of 1st August, and are expected to go beyond 5000 members in September.

The Peace Declarations and a NFLA press release are on the NFLA website.

Fukushima – NFLA making submission to Weightman review

The NFLA is submitting a detailed report on the 1st September to the ONR (HSE) UK nuclear safety review, prior to the publication of its final report to Government on the implications of the Fukushima disaster on the UK nuclear industry.

The NFLA submission included some detailed

concerns on nuclear engineering, nuclear emergency planning, and general effects on the environment. A wider concern that it is much too early to determine the effects of Fukushima, given that the radiation is still leaking out at the site, was also made.

The submission also includes issues raised

in 'The Independent' that the damaging of critical piping by the earthquake started the disastrous meltdown, **before** the tsunami wave had hit the plant.

The submission and related media releases will be placed on the NFLA website shortly. The Weightman final report is due out later in September.

NFLA media releases
August 2011:
(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA opposes NDA plans to transport Dounreay waste to Sellafield
- Fukushima and children's health
- Nagasaki Mayor seeks move away from nuclear power
- NFLA report on English Councils & a new energy policy
- Hiroshima Mayor calls for review of Japanese nuclear power strategy
- Sellafield MOX closure – closing one white elephant shouldn't see a new one being built

STOP PRESS!

The 2011 NFLA AGM, seminar and Steering Committee meeting will be held in Newry and Mourne Council's offices on November 28th.

The AGM rotates around the 4 Forums and 2011 is Ireland's turn. A seminar will also be organised for NFLA members and non members. All are very welcome to attend.

Towards an alternative energy revolution in England

The NFLA Secretariat has developed a detailed Policy Briefing highlighting the positive role English Councils can, and are, playing in developing an energy policy that does not need recourse to new nuclear build.

The briefing follows on from a similar report on

how Scotland can develop a renewable energy mix, energy efficiency & micro-generation for its future energy needs.

The English report gives many examples of Councils who are developing innovative energy policies to promote this non-

nuclear way forward and how they are working closely with their local communities.

Irish & Welsh reports will be published shortly.

The English report is on the NFLA website. Its next meeting in Rotherham will include some good examples noted in the report.

NFLA submitting energy policy ideas to Welsh Assembly

The NFLA Welsh Forum is planning to submit its views on how to develop a Welsh Energy policy to the Welsh Assembly, after an inquiry was recently announced.

The Welsh Assembly's Environment & Sustainability Committee is conducting an inquiry on the need to devolve

Welsh energy policy and how to develop a low carbon strategy.

The submission will be linked to the NFLA briefing on the positive role Welsh Councils can play in moving forward on a future non-nuclear energy policy.

The Forum will discuss

both reports at its next meeting in Caernarfon in October.

A meeting with the Welsh Environment Minister John Griffiths and the NFLA, NCG, PAWB and Friends of the Earth Wales is set now for the 17th October in Cardiff.

Minister Howlin speaking at NFLA Wexford meeting

Wexford TD and Irish Minister Brendan Howlin has been invited as keynote speaker at the next NFLA All Ireland Forum in Wexford's brand new Council offices.

The meeting will discuss the potential impacts of UK new build on Ireland. It will also look at the closure of the Sellafield MOX plant in reference to marine discharges.

A report on the positive moves between Irish and UK Governments on co-operating to develop renewable energy, and the role Councils can play is also highlighted in some detail.

NFLA letters to the media
August 2011:

(All emailed to NFLA members.)

- Nuclear weapons – the threat remains
- Ireland doesn't need the nuclear option
- Fukushima and children's health
- Fukushima – an accident waiting to happen
- Fukushima – what really happened and Ireland's response
- Fukushima – the awkward truth for the UK
- Sellafield MOX plant closure – a hidden agenda
- MOX is now closed, now it is Thorp's turn
- Sellafield MOX plant closure is good for Ireland
- Drax, biomass and new nuclear
- Fukushima and Hiroshima – why the UK needs to listen to the Japanese energy debate

Sellafield MOX plant closes; but will new plant be built?

On the 3rd August the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) announced that the Sellafield Mixed Oxide (MOX) facility will be closed.

The MOX plant reprocessed spent nuclear fuel for commercial sale. Its main customer has

been Japan, but the Fukushima incident has seen over two thirds of its nuclear sector currently closed down, reducing future orders for MOX fuel.

The NFLA welcomes the closure and urges the NDA to also close the Thorp facility. All workers should be

transferred to relevant decommissioning work.

The NFLA also notes its concern that a proposed Sellafield reprocessing facility for plutonium and new build fuel does not get the go-ahead later this year. The media releases on this issue are on the NFLA website.

Other news in brief

NFLA meeting actor Brian Cox - The NFLA Chair & NFLA Secretary met the actor Brian Cox on August 30 about developing a lecture or other type of event for the NFLA and Mayors for Peace. The actor, perhaps best known for his role in 'Braveheart', is a strong supporter of nuclear disarmament.

NFLA Scotland holds business meeting - NFLA Scotland will be holding its autumn business meeting prior to the NFLA Steering Committee in the Town Hall, Manchester on Sept 16. It will be considering a number of relevant Scottish nuclear policy issues and the 2012 Council elections.

NDA consultation on moving Dounreay & Harwell waste to Sellafield – the NDA has announced plans to move spent nuclear fuel from the Dounreay and Harwell sites to Sellafield for storage. The NFLA response to the public consultation, opposing the transports, is on the NFLA website.

Forthcoming NFLA meetings

NFLA Scotland Forum, 16th Sept, Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA Steering Committee, 16th Sept, Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA Welsh Forum, 14th October, Gwynedd Council Offices.

NFLA All Ireland Forum, 11th November, Wexford Council Offices.

NFLA English Forum, 18th November, Rotherham.

NFLA AGM and seminar, 25th November, Newry.