



## News from the Nuclear Free Local Authorities

**NFLA Secretariat**  
 c/o PO Box 532  
 Town Hall Manchester  
 M60 3NY  
[s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk)  
[nfla@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:nfla@manchester.gov.uk)

Tel: 0161 234 3244  
 Fax: 0161 274 7397

NFLA UK & Ireland Chair:  
 Bailie George Regan

NFLA UK & Ireland Secretary:  
 Sean Morris

NFLA All-Ireland Forum Chairs:  
 Councillor Michael Carr (North)  
 Councillor Ollan Herr (RoI)

NFLA All-Ireland Forum  
 Secretary: Sinead Trainor

NFLA England Forum Chair:  
 Councillor Ralph Pryke

NFLA Scotland Convenor:  
 Councillor Euan McLeod

NFLA Scotland Secretary:  
 Cathy Birrell

NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor:  
 Pete Roche

NFLA Wales Forum Chair:  
 Councillor Stephen Churchman

### Contents

Westminster seminar	1
NFLA backs Vienna initiative	1
NFLA / NGO reply to Huhne	2
NFLA Welsh Forum report	2
NFLA Ireland media release	2
NFLA letters to the media	2
M4P / NFLA Trident seminar	3
NFLA Scotland & EP	3
NFLA media releases	3
Forthcoming meetings	3

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



NFLA Secretary Sean Morris, NFLA Chair Bailie George Regan and Fife councillor Brian Goodall at the NCG / NFLA / No Need for Nuclear Westminster seminar

## Westminster hears about Fukushima

A packed House of Commons Committee Room 10 heard one of the most effective series of expert presentations questioning UK new nuclear build following the Fukushima incident.

Hosted by Caroline Lucas and chaired by Sir Jonathan Porritt, the seminar included a mixed audience of MPs,

regulators, industry reps, NFLA reps and NGOs.

John Large provided a detailed critique of the IAEA report into Fukushima and the key problems of new build designs. Prof Tom Burke continued that there was an unacceptable transfer of risk from the industry to the public purse with the new build reforms.

Andrew Warren noted the necessity of energy demand management. Prof Steve Thomas noted that the costs of new nuclear power stations had now grown 3 times since the 2008 estimate and Fukushima will increase this cost. Paul Dorfman reported the key health issues. The presentations are on the NCG website.

## NFLA backs Vienna City Council nuclear safety resolution

The NFLA supports an initiative of the City Council of Vienna in submitting a letter of complaint and joint resolution to the European Commission.

The initiative parallels that of the Austrian Government, who have met other EU states opposed to new nuclear developments. The Vienna initiative

seeks to mobilise European cities to call for improving nuclear safety regulations and a moratorium on new nuclear reactors. It also advocates the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Along with the NFLA, the letter has been endorsed by cities in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Italy.

A copy of the 7 point resolution and a full list of supporting cities will be placed on the NFLA website shortly.

Further co-operation with other concerned European cities on nuclear issues will be discussed at July meetings of the NFLA Scotland Forum and the NFLA English Forum.

**NFLA media releases  
June 2011:  
(On NFLA website.)**

- NFLA All Ireland Forum states its opposition to UK new build and urges more pro-active Irish Government response
- NFLA fully supports Westminster seminar on Fukushima
- NFLA / NGO joint response to Chris Huhne's nuclear policy letter



**NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
ABOLITION DAY  
21<sup>st</sup> June 2011**

Screenings of the film 'Countdown to Zero' took place at cinemas around the UK and Ireland in late June.

The film is by the same company that developed the Oscar winning climate change film 'An Inconvenient Truth'. The NFLA took part in a number of panel discussions following the screenings.

Go to:  
[www.countdowntozerofilm.com](http://www.countdowntozerofilm.com)  
if you would like information on how to purchase the film as a DVD and show locally.

## NFLA and NGOs respond in detail to Huhne letter

Following on from the reply of the UK Energy Minister Chris Huhne to a joint letter of 'minimum demands' from the NFLA & 35 nuclear concerned groups, a response has now been sent.

The NFLA / NGO follow-up letter, which can be found on the NFLA

website, notes deep reservations with the Weightman nuclear safety review. The letter also challenges many of the assertions made by Mr. Huhne on nuclear safety, new build, public subsidy and radioactive waste.

The NFLA have asked for the letter to be

tabled at the DECC NGO Forum on the 25<sup>th</sup> July.

NFLA and NGOs are also taking part in a dialogue meeting with Mike Weightman and nuclear regulators on the 5<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the interim nuclear safety report and the GDA new nuclear reactor design process.

## NFLA Welsh Forum agrees to joint nuclear free report

The NFLA Welsh Forum held a very useful strategy meeting in Cardiff City Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

The meeting included councillors from across Wales along with groups such as Friends of the Earth Wales, CND Wales, People Against Wylfa B, Stop Hinkley and various

independent nuclear policy consultants.

The meeting agreed to develop a joint letter to the new Welsh Environment Minister John Griffiths, seeking a dialogue on Welsh energy matters.

It was also agreed to develop a Welsh

Assembly seminar on new build, waste issues and developing a sustainable energy policy for Wales.

The meeting agreed to develop a joint paper of the alternatives to new nuclear build in Wales. These are all now being followed up by the NFLA.

## NFLA All Ireland Forum calls for halt to UK new nuclear build

The NFLA All Ireland Forum Co-chairs have stated their serious disappointment over the publication of the Nuclear National Policy Statement by the UK Government.

In a media release the Co-chairs say the publication does not take account of the EU stress tests or other nuclear safety concerns.

The media release also

urged the Irish Government to take a more publicly critical line with the UK Government. The media release can be found on the NFLA website.

### **NFLA letters to the media**

**June 2011:**  
**(All emailed to NFLA members.)**

- Developing a truly 'green' UK government
- E-on and the renewables revolution
- Thorium reactors are not the way forward for Wales
- Renewables hope
- Let's follow the growing European energy consensus



Speakers at the Westminster seminar chaired by Caroline Lucas MP (third from left)



CND poster at the Chernobyl anniversary vigil

## Joint Mayors for Peace / NFLA Trident seminar in Oxford

Preparations have been finalised for a business meeting of the UK Mayors for Peace Working Group and a joint seminar with the NFLA English Forum. This will be held in Oxford on the 8<sup>th</sup> July.

The seminar will include speakers from BASIC, the Nuclear Information

Service, CND & Mayors for Peace. A flyer can be found on the NFLA website.

Meanwhile, the Mayors for Peace held a teleconference board meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

The board meeting confirmed that the

Mayors for Peace are aiming to reach a target of 5000 members by the Hiroshima/Nagasaki A-bomb anniversaries in August. This would equate to representing around 1 billion people.

Mayors for Peace will be holding an Executive Conference in Spain in early November.

## NFLA Scotland considers nuclear emergency planning issues

The NFLA Scotland Forum will be holding a business meeting and a special seminar on nuclear emergency planning on July 1<sup>st</sup> in Glasgow.

The business meeting will consider various nuclear policy issues following the Scottish elections. A request by

the Scottish Parliament Cross-party Nuclear Weapons Group to join its meetings will also be considered.

A Senior Resilience Officer from Glasgow City Council will discuss concerns the NFLA have over nuclear emergency planning in Scotland and across the British

Isles. This follows on from the Fukushima incident and recent damning safety reports of a fire incident at Aldermaston and with nuclear submarines.

The seminar will assist the NFLA in developing a follow-up questionnaire to assess gaps in the UK & Ireland nuclear EP regime.

## Forthcoming NFLA meetings

**NFLA Scotland Forum, 1<sup>st</sup> July, City Chambers, Glasgow.**

**NFLA English Forum / UK Mayors for Peace meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> July, Oxford Town Hall.**

**NFLA All Ireland Forum, September, Wexford (date tbc).**

**NFLA Welsh Forum, September (date and location tbc).**

**NFLA Steering Committee, 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept, Manchester Town Hall.**