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Website Links:

NFLA: <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
Mayors for Peace: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>
2020 Vision: <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>
KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>
ICAN-UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Some of the attendees at the Fukushima seminar in Westminster showing children's art of Fukushima evacuees

NFLA remembers Fukushima

March 11th 2013 was the second anniversary of the Fukushima disaster and events were held around the world to remember those who died in the earthquake and tsunami and all those affected by the nuclear disaster.

The NFLA supported these events and issued a media release noting

current concerns over the potential building of new nuclear reactors in England and Wales. There are now major concerns of a new incident due to a power outage at the Fukushima site, meaning cooling ponds are not receiving fresh water.

Following a minutes silence to remember

Fukushima and the wider disaster at the NFLA Steering Committee a joint seminar with the NFLA English Forum was held.

The seminar looked at 3 important issues – shale gas extraction, radioactive waste and nuclear transportation concerns. See the NFLA website for more details.

Former Mayor of Hiroshima to speak at NFLA joint seminar

The NFLA Scotland Forum is gearing up for a high profile joint seminar looking at the importance of the campaign to reduce nuclear weapons proliferation in the world in 2013.

The seminar will coincide with the Abolition 2000 AGM in Edinburgh and it is being organised in co-

operation with A2000, Mayors for Peace and Parliamentarians for Non proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament (PNND).

The April 19 seminar will include the former Mayor of Hiroshima, Tadatoshi Akiba, who now chairs the Middle Powers Initiative.

Other speakers include the former New Zealand

Minister for Disarmament Matt Robson, Bill Kidd MSP and Karipbek Kuyokov, a victim of Soviet nuclear tests and Ambassador to the Kazakhstan 'ATOM' project.

The flyer is on the NFLA website. Please contact the NFLA Secretary to register for it. A NFLA Scotland meeting will also be held.

NFLA media releases
March 2013:
(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA disappointed with Government's Hinkley planning decision
- NFLA remembers the second anniversary of the Fukushima disaster
- NFLA submit report on radioactivity monitoring in food – major improvements required in regime
- As new nuclear flounders, NFLA advocates an Energy Plan B

NFLA LIBRARY AND
ARCHIVE MOVING TO
LEEDS MET UNI

Due to office changes in Manchester, and keen to ensure the NFLA's 33 year old library and archive is maintained, the NFLA has agreed with the Praxis Centre at Leeds Met University for it to host it in Leeds as a useful and a practical academic resource.

All minutes of NFLA meetings will continue to go to Gtr Manchester County Records Office. A number of NFLA artifacts have also been donated to the National Peace Museum in Bradford.

Monitoring radioactivity in food – NFLA responds to FSA

The NFLA has made a detailed submission to the Food Standards Agency (FSA) over its proposed changes to the monitoring system for checking radioactive levels in food.

The key conclusion from the NFLA submission is that the current system is not fit for purpose

and the changes to it will only weaken the food safety regime.

The other major point made by the NFLA in the consultation is that there needs to be significant improvement in the data collection around the nuclear sites and coastal areas of the British Isles by the FSA.

It also calls for a more stringent and a better funded national monitoring regime to avoid the same issues as with the recent international contaminated meat scandal.

A media release and the NFLA submission can be found on the NFLA website.

Towards a safer Cumbria dealing with its waste legacy

The NFLA Secretariat has placed on its website an illuminating 'Friends of the Earth' report by Pete Roche, who is also NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor.

The report 'Towards a Safer Cumbria' looks at the Sellafield site and the associated problems with finding effective long-term solutions to the

UK's nuclear waste legacy.

The report argues that Government, regulators and the NDA have neglected dealing with long-term solutions for nuclear waste in Cumbria, and must radically change track.

It focuses on 3 case

studies – Thorp, Sellafield's High Level Waste tanks and the treatment of solid wastes. It notes that £528 million has been spent by NDA on projects which have not been fully realised.

The paper is on the Radwaste section of the NFLA website.

NFLA Welsh seminar looks at future energy mix

The NFLA Welsh Forum is holding its spring seminar in Pontypool on April 12.

Confirmed speakers include Neil Crumpton, an independent energy

consultant who will focus on a non nuclear future Welsh energy mix.

Tim Richards of WANA will consider the risks in building new reactors at

Hinkley and Wylfa. Tim Deere-Jones will profligate the NFLA report on radioactivity in food and Sean Morris will outline the work of Mayors for Peace. The flyer for it is on the NFLA website.

NFLA letters to the media, March 2013

(All emailed directly to NFLA members)

- Was the Hinkley planning inquiry fit for purpose?
- New nuclear at Hinkley – costing the earth?
- Serious questions need to be answered on HMS Tireless leak
- The downside of fracking needs to be looked at by Government and experts



More attendees and Fukushima art pictures at Westminster seminar.



Fukushima seminar speakers Paul Dorfman and Steve Thomas with more Fukushima children's art

NFLA Irish seminar considers risks to Ireland of new build

The NFLA All Ireland Forum spring seminar will allow the first public discussion of the RPII's report on the potential radiological risks to Ireland of a new nuclear programme on the west coast of England and Wales.

Dr Ciara McMahon from the RPII will present

the reports key findings – over 6 months research has gone into the report.

Dr Ian Fairlie will provide an independent assessment of such risks to allow councillors and council officers to consider this important issue in a wide-ranging discussion.

The seminar will also look at the proposed development of large wind farms in the Irish Midlands and the NFLA report on fuel poverty and energy efficiency.

A flyer of the seminar is on the NFLA website and it has been advertised to all Irish Councils.

The future of nuclear new build – will Hinkley go ahead?

Much focus has taken place in March on the potential development of a new nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point in Somerset.

In mid March the Environment Agency (EA) confirmed approval of the environmental permits for a new reactor. The NFLA is

seeking a meeting to discuss the EA decision.

On March 19, the Energy Minister Ed Davey gave full planning consent to develop new nuclear reactors at Hinkley Point.

The main focus of the debate will now turn to investment issues. EDF and the Government are in long-running negotiat-

ion over the 'strike price' for new nuclear.

In 2008 DECC had estimated new nuclear costing £33 - £41 MWh. Media reports suggest that EDF is looking for a strike price now of £95 - £100 MWh and a 40 year contract. A related NFLA media release is on the NFLA website.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Steering Committee, 22nd March, Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA English Forum seminar, 22nd March, Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA Welsh Forum, 12th April, Torfaen Town Hall.

NFLA / Mayors for Peace / Abolition 2000 / PNND seminar, 19th April, Edinburgh City Chambers.

NFLA Scotland, 19th April, Edinburgh City Chambers.

NFLA All Ireland Forum, 3rd May, Fingal County Hall.