



News from the Nuclear Free Local Authorities

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KEY 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>



Japanese Mayors and delegates at the opening of the Mayors for Peace Forum, Vienna International Centre, at the NPT Prep Con

Mayors for Peace lobby the NPT

The NFLA Secretary took part in a Mayors for Peace delegation that lobbied state parties at the United Nations Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) 2012 Preparatory Conference in Vienna.

Mayors for Peace met around 20 National Ambassadors at the Conference, lobbying

them to play a direct role in pushing forward with the global non-proliferation regime.

A Mayors for Peace Forum was also held and led by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A new A-bomb exhibition was launched in the presence of the Chair of the NPT PrepCom. It is hoped this next series of

annual meetings will build on the relative progress from the 2010 NPT Conference.

The Mayors for Peace also held a meeting of its 2020 Vision Campaign Board of Directors. A detailed NFLA Policy Briefing on the NPT and the Mayors for Peace meetings can be found on the NFLA website.



Vienna Environment member Ulli Sima meets the Mayor of Nagasaki at the opening of new A-bomb exhibition, Vienna City Hall



Mayors for Peace delegates meet the Mexican Ambassador at the NPT Prep Conference, Vienna

NFLA discusses links and conference with Vienna City

Whilst in Vienna, the NFLA Secretary met with civic leaders and officials from Vienna Municipality. Vienna are proposing co-operation with other European cities and groups who are concerned with post-Fukushima nuclear safety matters across Europe.

The meeting also

included two delegates from a new Japanese Mayors initiative which is campaigning against the reopening of Japanese nuclear reactors and for renewable alternatives.

The meeting allowed for a useful sharing of views and an agreement to consider co-operation on a future conference, being considered for later this year.

The Vienna initiative is specifically seeking to lobby the European Commission and the European Parliament to ensure public safety is a priority aspect in discussions on future developments relating to nuclear policy.

The NFLA will discuss at its next meeting how to further co-operate with this welcome initiative.

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NFLA media releases

May 2012:

(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA publishes report on potential nuclear new build subsidies
- NFLA raises concern over nuclear stress test reports
- NFLA submits concerns to Hinkley C inquiry

NFLA raises concern over nuclear stress test reports

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) has published reports of post-Fukushima 'stress tests' on all nuclear facilities in the UK.

These reports have also been peer-reviewed on behalf of the European Commission (EC).

The ONR report noted that all UK nuclear facilities were essentially 'safe', but outlined a whole raft of issues where it wished to see improvements from the nuclear industry. The EC report reiterated many of these concerns.

NFLA published a media release noting some of these concerns and urging them to be rectified in the UK Government emergency planning review. See the NFLA website for more details of its concerns.

NFLA / Stop Hinkley submission on proposed Hinkley C

The NFLA and the local group 'Stop Hinkley' have submitted a joint submission to the National Infrastructure Directorate considering a new nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point.

The submission details key concerns around the on-site radioactive waste arising from a

new reactor at Hinkley, which may remain there for as long as 160 years.

It raises concern over increased flooding risks, emergency planning risks and the site's impact on the local community.

It also raises real

concern about a democratic deficit given the short time to respond to EDF's 30,000 page application.

It urges NID to reject the EDF planning application.

The submission is downloadable from the NFLA website.

NFLA Secretary addresses UK Minister and NGOs over EP

The NFLA Secretary gave a detailed presentation to DECC officials, ONR, EA, NDA and NGO representatives around post Fukushima nuclear emergency planning matters.

The NFLA presentation outlined a number of areas where there needed to be significant

improvement in the UK emergency planning regime – such as on evacuation planning, nuclear site emergency planning zones, issues over long-term recovery and the major factors arising out of the Fukushima incident.

The presentation was well received and DECC

staff were keen to develop further dialogue on the UK nuclear emergency planning review with NGOs.

The meeting also held an open discussion with Energy Minister Charles Hendry on flood risks and the wider prospects for new nuclear build.

NFLA Irish Forum to meet Irish Government officials

The Irish Government has agreed to meet with the NFLA All Ireland Forum to discuss its concerns over nuclear new build and other nuclear safety matters across the Irish Sea.

At the All Ireland Forum meeting in Dundalk NFLA members agreed that it was important to discuss nuclear policy with the Republic of Ireland Government, following recent NFLA

discussions with the N. Ireland Environment Minister Alex Attwood.

A resolution on nuclear matters has gone to Irish Councils following the Dundalk meeting.



NCG's Paul Dorfman speaking at a Chernobyl public meeting in Manchester



Anna Gorkachova talks about the Belarusian children's hospice movement at the Chernobyl public meeting

STOP PRESS! Mixed messages given out from West Cumbria MRWS consultation

Much was made at the presentation of MRWS consultation responses in West Cumbria - on whether to go forward in the process of hosting an underground radwaste repository - of a MORI poll suggesting majority support for the option in Copeland.

Further analysis of the poll showed that 44% knew nothing or little about the process. 60% of written responses also opposed going forward with the process.

NFLA letters to the media, May 2012

(all emailed directly to NFLA members)

- New nuclear setbacks – change course now!
- New nuclear and the need to develop a renewable alternative

UK Government energy bill – subsidies for new build?

The NFLA Policy Advisor has developed a detailed report outlining a whole raft of direct and indirect subsidies being planned by the UK Government in its draft Energy Bill to Parliament of electricity market reforms.

The NFLA report was drafted for the media

watchdog 'Spinwatch' and it indicates a list of detailed proposals to assist new build at the expense of the UK taxpayer and electricity consumer.

The Energy Bill has been criticised widely by energy utilities, financial analysts & a variety of environmental groups.

The NFLA Policy Advisor has contacted 430 Lib Dem branches to lobby their own Ministers over the reforms. The NFLA has also forwarded its report to a number of MPs across all the main parties.

The report and media release can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA develops joint nuclear campaigners meeting

The NFLA Secretariat has been co-operating with GM CND, SERA and the Chernobyl Children's Project to develop an initial planning meeting of nuclear campaigning groups for a later national conference on new nuclear build. This meeting is planned for June 30th and is open to all interested groups.

The meeting will bring groups together for various workshops on working with the media, influencing the political process, determining the key concerns and how to develop various local, national & international campaigns.

The meeting will then start adding detail to a

conference that will seek to consider the European context to the nuclear debate and how to learn from successful campaigns in Germany, Switzerland and Italy.

Further details are available from the NFLA Secretariat and flyers are being emailed to group representatives.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

ONR NGO Forum, 23rd May, Connaught Meeting Rooms, London.

MOD AG Submarine Dismantling Project, 20th – 21st June, Bristol.

NFLA Steering Committee, 29th June, Manchester Town Hall.

Nuclear groups planning meeting, 30th June, Bridge 5 Mill, Manchester.

Dates for national NFLA Forum meetings will be confirmed shortly as new NFLA reps are appointed following the local elections.