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Watch out for NFLA Briefings on Forum seminars coming out in November!



Pete Wilkinson speaking at the NFLA England / Wales joint seminar in Liverpool Town Hall.

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Planning changes - community anger

NFLA England and NFLA Wales held a joint seminar in Liverpool Town Hall looking at the major changes to planning in the 2 countries, with the creation of the National Infra-structure Planning Commission (NIPC).

The seminar heard from Hugh Ellis of the Town and Country Planning Association, who noted

the NIPC was one of the most important changes in planning law in the past 50 years. He had deep misgivings at the lack of democratic accountability of this new planning process.

The NIPC will cover all major projects, particularly new nuclear power stations, to speed up planning approval. Real concerns

remain that community groups and Councils would have little say in such developments. Pete Roche and Pete Wilkinson reiterated these points, while the renewable energy specialist David Hunt said the NIPC would have little benefit for the sector. A full NFLA policy briefing will be issued shortly.

Radioactive discharges on Irish Sea must be reconsidered

NFLA Ireland held a seminar at Bray Town Hall looking at the key energy issues affecting Ireland.

Tim Deere-Jones gave an overview providing a stinging critique of the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland's report on radioactive discharges on the Irish east coast. The NFLA will follow

this report up with the RPII and the Irish Government.

Sustainable energy consultant Gavin Harte also provided an impressive overview to councillors that the world had largely reached 'peak oil' production and major changes in energy policy are required in Ireland – renewable

energy being the only sustainable answer to this dilemma.

Pete Roche provided an overview on nuclear new build in England and Wales and how Irish Councils needed to respond to upcoming consultations. A full NFLA policy briefing will be issued shortly and go on the website.



Tim Deere-Jones speaking at NFLA Ireland meeting

NFLA press releases, October 2009:

NFLA Chair speaks at Scottish Parliament on nuclear weapons.
<http://tinyurl.com/ydwl962>

Major infrastructure planning – is there a democratic deficit?
<http://tinyurl.com/ygy9dft>

How should Ireland respond to key energy and safety questions?
<http://tinyurl.com/yh4adrc>

Scotland and nuclear – which way should it go?
<http://tinyurl.com/ycdmtbs>

Is the Irish coastline safe from radiation? NFLA Ireland urges more independent research:
<http://tinyurl.com/yd6vjzc>

Childhood leukaemia near nuclear sites – UK study needed

NFLA Scotland held a business meeting and seminar in Glasgow Parish Halls considering the key nuclear issues affecting the country.

The most startling presentation was by Dr Ian Fairlie providing an overview of the German government 'KIKK'

study on cancer rates around nuclear sites compared to the national average. The study suggested an increase in childhood cancers within 5kms of a nuclear site. NFLA will ask for a similar study across the UK.

JW Storm van Leeuwen presented about the

major long-term shortage of easily-mined uranium, while Pete Roche noted how Scotland should react to nuclear new build in England. John Ainslie from CND provided an overview of Trident and the Faslane base. A policy paper will be drafted and go on the NFLA website.

NuLEAF and SCCORS developments

The Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (NuLEAF) held its Annual General Meeting in London in October.

The AGM elected Councillor Neil Swannick from Manchester City Council as its Vice Chair. Councillor Allan Halliday of Copeland Borough Council was re-elected

as Chair. There was discussion on the proposed deep-waste repository and a robust debate over potential 'synergies' between nuclear waste legacy management and new build. An action plan was agreed.

The Scottish Councils Committee on Radiation

Substances (SCCoRS) has also established a core committee and is chaired by Bailie George Regan of Dundee City Council. It is taking part in the Scottish Government's radioactive waste policy.

NFLA takes a very full part in both local government groupings.

Submarine decommissioning – 12 sites nominated

The NFLA Secretary and Fife Councillor Brian Goodall and officer Fraser Thomson attended the MOD's Submarine Dismantling Project Advisory Group meeting in Edinburgh.

The meeting confirmed that the consultation the dismantling process had been delayed and would be expected in June 2010. The meeting announced 12 potential sites had been

nominated for an ILW store and 2 sites for the dismantling project.

The NFLA Secretary has been asked to join the SDP Consultation Sub-group.



Nuclear submarine on patrol



Ian Fairlie speaking to the NFLA Scotland seminar

Letters to the press in October:

http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/media_letters_oct09.pdf

- EDF and nuclear transportation – sent to Daily Telegraph
- Arrest of nuclear scientist with terrorist links – sent to Daily Telegraph
- NFLA Scotland welcomes investment in renewable centre – sent to The Scotsman
- Feed in tariffs and renewable energy – sent to the Guardian
- Infra-structure planning and the democratic deficit – sent to The Times

Nuclear Policy and Justification Statements due soon

The UK Government have announced that two important nuclear policy statements will be issued in November 2009.

A series of policy statements on energy use will be issued, including a nuclear policy statement. This is

likely to outline the Government's desire to build nuclear policy statements and is a part of the process for such developments to be referred to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

A linked consultation document will provide

the Climate Change Secretary's 'Justification' decision outlining the reasons new nuclear build is to be justified under European law.

Both consultations will be crucial to respond to, and NFLA will provide a briefing for member authorities and duly respond.

NFLA AGM 2009

The NFLA AGM will be held on 3rd and 4th December 2009 in Cardiff City Hall. The Steering Committee is delighted to be holding the AGM in the capital of Wales and thank Cardiff City Council for agreeing to host the meeting.

The AGM will determine

NFLA Chairs and National Vice Chairs for 2010 and agree to an updated service plan and work programme for an important year in the nuclear policy debate.

It is hoped to invite a keynote speaker from Wales to conclude the meeting.

It is very important for all NFLA members to seek to attend the AGM to determine its leadership and future strategy. The AGM will also endorse 'NFLA at 30' commemorations.

Forthcoming meetings

NFLA Steering Committee –
2 – 4pm, Thursday 3rd December, Room 100, City Hall, Cardiff.

NFLA Forum meetings and NFLA UK and Ireland Annual General Meeting –
10am – 2pm, Friday 4th December, Council Chamber, City Hall, Cardiff.

2010 business meetings will be diaried and agreed at the AGM in December.