

Nuclear Free Local Authorities Secretariat

c/o Manchester City Council, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 3NY, UK
Tel: 0161 234 3244 Fax: 0161 274 7397



To the Letters Editor, The Independent

Dear Sir,

Re: Nuclear Power? Yes please...

I note with interest the 'conversion' of the four leading environmentalists to nuclear power in the battle against climate change reported in today's Independent.

Whilst acknowledging the sincerity of their new beliefs, in the view of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities, it is disappointing to see how easily they have fallen for the spin of a well-organised and well-funded nuclear lobby, which they once worked so hard and effectively against.

The case for new nuclear build is far from proven – it remains highly expensive to develop, we are still decades away from solving the huge radioactive waste legacy and it is doubtful if new nuclear energy will come 'on tap' in time to deal with climate change. It is also unlikely to have the dramatic effect on energy generation its supporters and the environmentalists claim.

There is a simple answer – if the Government puts its efforts and adequate resources into the renewable sector and helps Councils promote energy efficiency and local micro-generation projects in the same way as the likes of Germany and Spain do then we could deal positively and sustainably in reducing carbon emissions and prevent a future energy crisis.

Let us remember that the vast majority of environmentalists agree with this view, as Tony Juniper put it so eloquently in reply to your article. In an area of worrying concerns around nuclear proliferation let us not make the mistakes of the past and finally and with conviction build a renewable, sustainable and low carbon future. Nuclear power? No thank you!

Yours sincerely,

Sean Morris
NFLA Secretary