



**Nuclear Free Local Authorities English Forum seminar  
(In co-operation with the NFLA Steering Committee)  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013  
Committee Room 3, Manchester Town Hall,  
Albert Square, M60 2LA**

***Key issues in nuclear and wider energy policy – shale gas, nuclear waste policy, transportation of radioactively contaminated steel***

This NFLA English Forum seminar (in co-operation with, and open to, NFLA Steering Committee members and interested environmental and nuclear policy groups) will consider three important energy policy and nuclear policy issues of interest to the Nuclear Free Local Authorities.

At the end of January 2013 the NFLA published its own overview of the energy and environmental issues relating to the proposed development of shale gas and fracking at sites across the UK and Ireland. The NFLA briefing raised a number of fundamental environmental concerns with this type of energy generation. This seminar will provide you with an overview of how planning developments for such projects will be undertaken and whether there could be the same kind of democratic deficit as there has been with new nuclear power station developments at Hinkley Point and Sizewell. It will also encourage consideration of the role of Councils in the fracking debate. ([http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/A219\\_\(NB105\)\\_Shale\\_gas\\_fracking/pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/A219_(NB105)_Shale_gas_fracking/pdf))

At the same time as the NFLA Policy Briefing was published, it was announced by Cumbria County Council that it would not proceed to the next stage of the process for locating a suitable site for a deep-underground radioactive waste policy. This decision has had a profound effect across all aspects of nuclear policy. In light of this decision, what is the likely future direction of radioactive waste management policy and the important role local government takes within it?

The NFLA remains further concerned over a number of related issues around the transportation of nuclear materials by road, rail and sea. In the United States and Canada similar groups to the NFLA have been raising concerns about a dilution of safety standards to the reprocessing of radioactively contaminated scrap metal, whilst shipments of such metals have appeared at ports or within the local consumable market. In the UK, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has just started a process for the transport of contaminated heat exchangers from decommissioned nuclear reactors to a Studsvik site in Sweden for decontamination and partial clean-up. Some of this material may be recycled into the consumable steel market. What are the issues around recycled contaminated scrap metal and how safe are the shipments?

This FREE seminar will consider these three important issues and allow for a discussion of how each theme may develop in the future.

**Programme**

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|--------|--|
| 1.30pm | Welcome by the NFLA Chair, Councillor Mark Hackett   |
| 1.35pm | Shale gas and fracking – what planning role will local authorities have in these key energy development? Helen Rimmer (confirmed) and Naomi Ludhe-Thomas (tbc), Friends of the Earth, Greater Manchester |
| 2.00pm | Radioactive waste management policy – where next? Stewart Kemp, Executive Co-Director, Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (NuLeAF) (confirmed)  |
| 2.25pm | Radioactively contaminated metals – what are the transportation and recycling concerns? Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary (confirmed)  |
| 2.50pm | Question and answer session (for a 3.15pm close)   |



**Nuclear Free Local Authorities SC seminar**  
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**Albert Square, M60 2LA**



The seminar is a free event open to all NFLA members and officers, non member councils and interested local groups.

If you are planning to attend, could you please fill in the appropriate details and post, email or fax to the address at the bottom of this form:

Name	Authority / Group	Correspondence address (email or postal)

**Venue and details of accommodation:**

Manchester Town Hall is located quite centrally in Manchester, close to the St Peter's Square Metrolink tram stop. The entrance to the building is either from the main front entrance on Albert Square or the side entrance on Lloyd Street. Ask at the main reception for directions to the Committee Room. A map can be downloaded from <http://www.manchester.gov.uk/location>.

There are a large variety of hotels in Manchester. For further details please consult the website <http://www.visitmanchester.com>.

**Please return this form to:**

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