



*Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee*

# information

**NFLA Media release - for immediate release, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012**

## **NFLA Welsh Forum seminar in Cardiff considers the key nuclear policy issues affecting Wales – Wylfa B, Welsh energy policy, climate change mitigation and could Trident come to Wales?**

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) Wales Forum will be holding its autumn seminar this Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October in Cardiff County Hall. The seminar will look at some of the key nuclear policy matters affecting Wales now and in the near future (1).

Speakers for the seminar include:

- Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM, who has been one of the most active Welsh Assembly members involved in the cross-party movement opposing the potential moving of Trident submarines to Wales, in the event of a positive Scottish independence vote (2);
- Dr Carl Clowes from the Anglesey anti-nuclear new build group People Against Wylfa B, who will profile the group's well researched report on economic and energy alternatives to new nuclear build in Wales (3);
- Gareth Clubb of Friends of the Earth Wales, who will outline its views on Welsh energy policy, the impact of climate change and nuclear power (4).
- Professor Nick Pidgeon from Cardiff University, who will talk about public attitudes towards nuclear power.
- NFLA Secretary Sean Morris, who will provide an overview of recent NFLA reports on the future development of Welsh energy policy and nuclear emergency planning post Fukushima (5);

The UK new nuclear build programme is at a critical juncture at present. A decision on the planning inquiry for building a new nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point is expected in December, whilst an exhaustive 'Generic Design Assessment' process of the reactor designs for new nuclear power stations is also nearing conclusion. A decision on whether a new consortium will take over the Wylfa and Oldbury sites from the Horizon RWE/ E-on partnership is also expected soon.

Decisions on Trident replacement will also be an issue for the next UK general election. The debate over Scottish independence has been given a Welsh dimension as the First Minister Carwyn Jones suggested Milford Haven as an alternative location if Faslane in Scotland had to be vacated in 2014. This seminar will consider these issues and allow councillors, council officers and local interested groups the opportunity to discuss them in more detail as to how they affect Wales.

NFLA Welsh Forum Co Chair, Councillor Ed Bridges said:

"I am delighted the NFLA is holding its autumn seminar in Cardiff Bay just a few miles across the sea from the Hinkley Point nuclear site. The Welsh Government and the Welsh Assembly have recently given their opinion on the future direction of Welsh energy policy and even about Trident. Though NFLA agrees with the encouragement of renewable energy it strongly opposes the development of Wylfa B."

Local Councillor and NFLA representative, Councillor Sue Lent added:

"This seminar is a timely opportunity to consider the issues around energy, nuclear power and its alternatives, as well as the location of nuclear weapons, as policy makers in Westminster and Cardiff consider what energy facilities need to be developed and how fuel poverty and climate change can be mitigated. I am pleased to be hosting it."

Ends

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES**



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**Further information** - Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary - 0161 234 3244 or 07771 930186.  
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## **Notes to editors:**

- (1) NFLA Welsh Forum seminar, 24<sup>th</sup> October, Courtyard Room 5E, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff, Wales. Seminar programme:  
**Wales, nuclear, safety matters & its alternatives – key issues for local authorities**

10.30am	<b>Registration</b>
10.50am	<b>Welcome:</b> Councillor Ed Bridges, Cardiff City Council and NFLA Welsh Forum Joint Chair
10.55am	Wylfa B and its alternatives – A Manifesto for Anglesey? Carl Clowes, 'People Against Wylfa B'.
11.20am	Climate change, nuclear power and devolving Welsh energy policy – Gareth Clubb, Friends of the Earth Cymru.
11.45am	NFLA Policy Briefings on Welsh energy policy and on Fukushima and the review of UK nuclear emergency planning arrangements – Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary.
12.10pm	Public attitudes on nuclear power – Professor Nick Pidgeon, School of Psychology, Cardiff University
12.30pm	Milford Haven Port & Trident – a realistic alternative to Faslane? Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM, Carmarthenshire East.
12.55pm	Panel discussion chaired by Councillor Sue Lent, Cardiff City Council.
1.30pm	<b>Conclusion</b>
- (2) BBC News Online, 'Carwyn Jones – Wales would welcome Trident submarines', 19<sup>th</sup> June, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-18509639>
- (3) People against Wylfa B (PAWB), 'Manifesto for Mon – a realistic solution for job creation', <http://www.stop-wylfa.org/wp/?p=563>
- (4) See NFLA Policy Briefings on Welsh energy policy and nuclear emergency planning - [http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/NFLA\\_PB\\_90\\_Welsh\\_energy\\_report.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/NFLA_PB_90_Welsh_energy_report.pdf)  
[http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/NFLA\\_NB\\_100\\_Nuclear\\_emergency\\_planning.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/NFLA_NB_100_Nuclear_emergency_planning.pdf)
- (5) For the work of Friends of the Earth Wales go to - <http://www.foe.co.uk/cymru.html>

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