



*Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee*

# information

**NFLA Media release - for immediate release, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

## **NFLA Scotland seminar discusses concerns around Trident replacement, Dounreay radwaste rail transport, Dalgety Bay radioactive contamination and Rosyth nuclear subs dismantling**

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities Scotland Forum (NFLA) is holding a business meeting, AGM and special seminar considering nuclear waste and nuclear weapons issues affecting Scotland (1). The meeting will take place at Renfrewshire House in Paisley on the 10<sup>th</sup> February.

The seminar and meetings will be discussing four nuclear issues of real concern to the Scottish public and Scottish local authorities:

- The debate over Trident replacement and the position of Scottish bases in Faslane and Coulport;
- The continuing concerns over the potential transport of 'exotic' radioactive fuels, including plutonium, from Dounreay across the Scottish rail network to Sellafield (2);
- The ongoing concerns around increased amounts of radioactive particles being unearthed at Dalgety Bay in Fife;
- The Ministry of Defence's consultation around the dismantling of nuclear submarines and their interim storage affecting the naval base at Rosyth.

NFLA Scotland has been challenging official policy on these issues for some considerable time and will be shortly meeting with the Scottish Government to discuss its concerns over a number of radioactive waste issues. In its meeting tomorrow it will discuss recent correspondence provided by the Scottish Government and the Ministry of Defence on such issues and the ongoing problems at Dalgety Bay.

Amongst the speakers to the NFLA Scotland seminar include:

- Bill Kidd MSP, Co-chair of the Scottish Parliament's Cross-party Group on Nuclear Weapons.
- Pete Roche, NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor.
- John Ainslie, CND Scotland Co-ordinator (discussing their own recent report on Trident).
- Helen Todd, a local community campaigner from Dalgety Bay.

The seminar occurs at a time when the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has again consulting on whether radioactive materials at Dounreay should be transported by rail to Sellafield – a view previously challenged by the NFLA over safety and waste management concerns around the transportation of such materials across Scotland. The NFLA are also closely monitoring the discussion between the Ministry of Defence and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency on the mitigation measures that will be implemented for cleaning up radioactive contamination at Dalgety Bay (3).

The NFLA has made a detailed submission to the cross-party Trident Commission, urging it to consider the debate over Trident replacement in Scotland, where there is widespread public opposition to an upgrade of the missile programme (4).

NFLA Scotland Acting Convenor and Renfrewshire Councillor Audrey Doig said:

"Tomorrow's NFLA Scotland meeting and seminar comes at an important time in the debate over radioactive waste management and Trident replacement in Scotland. The NFLA remains concerned that Scottish Government Higher Activity Radioactive Waste Policy is being subtly ignored in recent issues affecting Dounreay, Dalgety Bay and Rosyth. We will also raise the issue that the majority of

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the Scottish public support the view that the Trident replacement programme is scrapped. We share the view of our partner cities in Hiroshima, Nagasaki and 5124 other Mayors for Peace town and city members to seek to abolish all nuclear weapons by 2020. I urge councillors to attend the seminar and find out more about these important issues.” (5)

Ends

**Further information** - Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary 0161 234 3244 or 07771 930186.

## **Notes to editors:**

- (1) The NFLA Scotland Winter Seminar, Renfrewshire House, Paisley, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
**Key nuclear issues in Scotland – Trident, Dounreay, Dalgety Bay and Rosyth.**  
Programme:  
12.30pm **Registration.**  
12.50pm **Welcome:** Councillor Audrey Doig, NFLA Scotland Acting Convenor.  
12.55pm Pete Roche, NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor – radioactive waste issues in Scotland: Dalgety Bay, Dounreay and submarine dismantling at Rosyth.  
1.20pm Helen Todd, Local Community Activist – Radioactive contamination concerns at Dalgety Bay and the local community.  
1.35pm John Ainslie, Co-ordinator, CND Scotland – Trident: Nowhere to go? A Scottish CND report to contribute to the Trident replacement debate in Scotland.  
2.00pm Bill Kidd MSP, member of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament and Co Chair of the Scottish Parliament’s Cross-party Nuclear Weapons Group – Trident replacement and the views of PNND / Scottish Parliament Group.  
2.25pm Panel discussion.  
2.45pm **Conclusion.**
- (2) See ‘Credible Options Study on remaining nuclear materials at Dounreay’, published 7<sup>th</sup> February by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. <http://www.nda.gov.uk/news/exotics-dounreay.cfm>
- (3) See NFLA Scotland’s letter to the Scottish Environment Minister Richard Lochhead, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011. [http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/2228\\_001.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/news/2228_001.pdf)
- (4) See NFLA submission to the Trident Commission, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011. [http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/A206\\_\(NB92\)\\_Trident\\_Commission.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/briefings/A206_(NB92)_Trident_Commission.pdf)
- (5) The NFLA works closely on the nuclear weapons issue with the Mayors for Peace. NFLA members Glasgow City Council and Manchester City Council are on the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign Association Board. Further details at <http://mayorsforpeace.org>

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