



Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee

information

NFLA Media release - for immediate release, 10th April 2013

NFLA Welsh Forum seminar considers Hinkley, Wylfa, energy futures, radioactivity in food and nuclear weapons matters

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) Welsh Forum holds its spring seminar in Torfaen Civic Centre, Pontypool this Friday, April 12th (1).

The seminar will consider important energy matters, new nuclear build, radiation safety and nuclear weapons matters. Torfaen County Borough Council rejoined the NFLA earlier this year. The NFLA is delighted to have the opportunity to inform its councillors and other Welsh councillors of some of the key energy and proliferation matters affecting Wales.

The speakers include:

- Neil Crumpton, an independent energy expert, who will consider how Wales can produce enough future energy from renewable energy and energy saving schemes without recourse to nuclear power. Neil has recently produced a similar paper for discussion between the UK Government and the leading national Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs).
- Tim Richards, of the South Wales Anti Nuclear Alliance, will consider the risks to Wales of the potential development of new nuclear reactors at Hinkley Point and Wylfa.
- Tim Deere-Jones, an independent marine pollution consultant, will provide an overview of the NFLA's recent submission to the Food Standards Agency over radioactivity monitoring in foodstuffs. He will also consider if there is the possibility of a similar incident in Wales to the 2012 Dalgety Bay radioactive contamination in Fife, Scotland.
- Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary, will consider current trends in the debate over the Trident nuclear weapons programme, the implications of the Scottish referendum vote and whether Welsh sites may be considered in the future to host Trident submarines, in the event of Scottish independence. He will also outline the work of NFLA and the Mayors for Peace in providing a local government voice at the United Nations in pushing for a reduction in nuclear weapons proliferation.

NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair, Councillor Ray Davies said:

“With a final investment decision on building new nuclear reactors at Hinkley Point imminent, this NFLA Welsh Forum seminar is timely for considering the implications of such a construction and whether there are, as I believe, better renewable energy alternatives. I am also keen to know if a Welsh Dalgety Bay type of incident is possible and to hear of the important choices being made over the Trident nuclear weapons system. I urge councillors to attend and non-member authorities to follow Torfaen and Merthyr Tydfil's lead and rejoin the NFLA.”

NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair, Councillor Ed Bridges added:

“We are all aware that energy policy in Wales and the wider UK is at a crossroads. I believe there is a better alternative than new nuclear power and I look forward to hearing what a future Welsh energy mix could look like, and the positive role Welsh Councils can play in achieving it.”

Ends

Further information - Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary - 0161 234 3244 or 07771 930196.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES



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Notes to editors:

- (1) Nuclear Free Local Authorities Welsh Forum Spring 2013 Seminar:
Future energy and nuclear non-proliferation scenarios – key update for Welsh local authorities, Friday 12th April 2013, Council Chamber, Torfaen Civic Centre, Pontypool, NP4 6YB

FINAL PROGRAMME

- 10.30am **Registration**
- 10.55am **Welcome:** Councillor Jessica Powell, Torfaen County Borough Council and Councillor Ray Davies, Caerphilly County Borough Council and NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair
- 11.00am Welsh energy needs in the next two decades – can a mix of renewables, energy efficiency and microgeneration be sufficient or do we still need new nuclear? Neil Crumpton, independent energy consultant
- 11.25am Health and radiation issues in food and wider concerns over a 'Dalgety Bay' type of incident in Wales – Tim Deere-Jones, independent marine pollution consultant
- 11.50pm New nuclear build at Hinkley Point and Wylfa – what are the risks to Wales? Tim Richards, South Wales Anti-Nuclear Alliance
- 12.15pm Nuclear free Scotland, nuclear weapon Wales? Nuclear non-proliferation, Trident and the role of NFLA and Mayors for Peace. Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary and UK Mayors for Peace Working Group Secretary
- 12.45pm Panel discussion chaired by Councillor Ed Bridges, Cardiff City Council and NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair

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