



Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee

information

NFLA Media release - for immediate release, 13th March 2014

NFLA Welsh Forum joins with other concerned groups to hold public meeting on whether Wylfa B is the right energy answer for North Wales

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) has joined up with the groups People Against Wylfa B (PAWB), Friends of the Earth Cymru and CND Cymru to hold a public meeting considering issues of concern around the construction of a new nuclear power station at Wylfa in Anglesey. (1)

The meeting is being held in the Celtic Royal Hotel, Caernarfon on the morning of Saturday March 22nd. The four participating groups are all concerned that the building of a new reactor at Wylfa is the wrong energy answer for North Wales. Wylfa B would also add to the large radioactive waste legacy that exists in Wales and the wider UK. The North Wales coast is already the site of large wind farms and there is a great potential for tidal and wave power in the area. There remain environmental and safety concerns that exist with nuclear power, such as marine radioactive discharges and implementing the many safety issues raised by the Fukushima disaster, whose third anniversary was commemorated early this week.

Speakers at the public meeting include:

- Carl Clowes and his son Cian Ciaran (of the pop group Super Furry Animals) from the group People Against Wylfa B will talk about a recent visit they took to the Fukushima area. They met many evacuees, health experts and local Mayors. The Mayor of Minamisoma City in the Fukushima Prefecture told them 'Wylfa B – don't, don't, don't!'
- The NFLA Secretary will provide an overview of its joint submission, with the Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe Network and Stop Hinkley, to the European Commission over the UK Government's deal with EDF for construction of new nuclear reactors. The Commission's view on this deal will be pivotal for the future development of new reactors like those proposed at Wylfa.
- Independent marine pollution consultant Tim Deere-Jones will consider the effects the winter severe weather may have had on the dispersal of radioactive discharges in the Irish Sea on coastal communities.
- Independent energy consultant Neil Crumpton will consider the wider UK plans for nuclear power and assess whether renewable energy could provide the same levels being planned for new nuclear.

Registration is open to councillors, council officers and the general public. The aim of the seminar is to provide an alternative viewpoint to that being given by the UK Government and the nuclear industry.

NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair Councillor Ray Davies said:

"This joint public meeting has been organised to allow councillors and the general public in North Wales the opportunity to consider the issues of concern around new nuclear build at Wylfa. I am sure the speakers will provide much detail to highlight why Wylfa B is the wrong energy answer for Wales, as it is for England. I am also keen to hear the views of the public in the open discussion which will follow the presentations. I urge people to register and find out more about one of the most controversial energy developments in Wales."

Ends

For more information please contact Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary on 0161 234 3244.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES



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Notes for editors:

- (1) Joint public meeting on Wylfa B organised by NFLA Welsh Forum, PAWB, FOE Cymru and CND Cymru, Celtic Royal Hotel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AY.

Programme:

10.30am	Registration
10.55am	Welcome: Councillor Ray Davies, Caerphilly County Borough Council and NFLA Welsh Forum Co-Chair and Councillor Steven Churchman, Gwynedd County Councillor
11.00am	Lessons from Fukushima for Wylfa B - Dr Carl Clowes and his son Cian Ciaran (from the pop group Super Furry Animals) from People Against Wylfa B will talk about their visit to the Fukushima area and the lessons they have learnt for nuclear power in north Wales.
11.30am	The European Commission consideration of the UK Government's deal with EDF to construct new nuclear reactors – will they approve it and what is its impact on Wylfa B? And what is the view of the NFLA and its European partners? Sean Morris, National Secretary, Nuclear Free Local Authorities
12.00pm	Severe weather and radioactive discharges on coastal communities – a public health problem? Tim Deere-Jones, independent marine pollution consultant
12.30pm	Nuclear energy or renewable energy in Wales – what are their capabilities? Neil Crumpton, independent energy adviser
1.00pm	Panel discussion chaired by John Cox, Vice Chair, CND Wales
2.00pm	Conclusion

A bilingual flyer with full registration details is available at the following website address:

http://nuclearpolicy.info/docs/events/22-3-14_Cfon.pdf

Registration for the meeting can be arranged by emailing the NFLA Secretary – s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk or ringing him on 0161 234 3244.

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