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### **KEY WEBSITE LINKS:**

**NFLA:** <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>  
**Mayors for Peace:** <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>  
**2020 Vision:** <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>  
**KIMO:** <http://www.kimointernational.org>



NFLA Chair, NFLA Ireland Chairs, NFLA Secretary, Newry officers & Northern Ireland Environment Minister Alex Attwood at NFLA AGM in Newry

## NFLA make Hinkley submissions

The NFLA submitted in mid-December a joint response to the Environment Agency in relation to potential discharges from a proposed new nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point.

The submission was co-sponsored with the groups Stop Hinkley, Friends of the Earth Cymru and CND Cymru.

It included a 65 page detailed analysis by marine pollution expert Tim Deere-Jones and an additional overview of likely gaseous discharges from Dr Ian Fairlie. It has also been supported by a cross-party panel of MPs and MEPs including Caroline Lucas, Jill Evans, Martin Caton and Paul Flynn. BBC Radio Somerset interviewed

both consultants.

The NFLA has also registered with the IPC's Hinkley planning inquiry. The ONR & Environment Agency have given interim approval for the 2 new reactor designs. Major safety design & investment decisions still need to be made in 2012. The submissions are on the NFLA website.

## NFLA submits views to Trident Commission

The NFLA Secretariat has submitted a response to the Trident Commission on the need for, and the alternatives to, a Trident replacement programme.

The cross-party Trident Commission is made up of former Defence Ministers, as well as academic, military and foreign policy experts

and it is seeking to hear comments on what the UK Government should do with its existing & future nuclear weapons capability.

The NFLA submission notes its close links with the Mayors for Peace and advocates a more pro-active multilateral disarmament policy. It provides new research on the devastating

effects of even a limited nuclear strike and it highlights the huge financial cost of Trident, which cannot be justified in these severe financial times.

The submission and a related media release can be found on the NFLA website. The Commission holds oral sessions early in the new year.

### **NFLA SERVICE PLAN**

The 2012 NFLA Service Plan, which summarises all its planned work in the coming year has been published and is on the NFLA website.

The NFLA office will be closed 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Happy Christmas & New Year!

### **NFLA media releases** **December 2011:** ***(On NFLA website.)***

- NFLA endorses Committee on Climate Change report on the effect of 'green taxes'
- NFLA submit major response to the Environment Agency over new Hinkley plant proposed discharges
- NFLA publish briefing on nuclear emergency planning survey
- NFLA submit issues to the Trident Commission
- NFLA concerns for new proposed plutonium facility at Sellafield
- Councillor Brian Goodall appointed new NFLA Chair

## NFLA submits nuclear emergency planning survey to DECC

The NFLA Secretariat has published a briefing providing an overview of developments at Fukushima, with a specific emphasis on nuclear emergency planning.

Over the summer the NFLA conducted a survey of local authority emergency planning

units on knowledge of the ONR's Fukushima review, general nuclear emergency planning readiness and the future development of national policy.

The briefing has been submitted to the UK Government and its Nuclear Emergency Planning Liaison Group

(NEPLG) as part of the UK review that was recommended in the ONR's Fukushima interim and final reports.

The briefing has been shared with emergency planning units and it can be found on the NFLA website. A NFLA English Forum seminar is being devised around this.

## NFLA and KIMO to submit radiation concerns to OSPAR

The NFLA are discussing with KIMO International the development of a number of reports for the late January meeting of the OSPAR Radioactive Substances Committee (RSC).

The RSC is the inter-governmental body that seeks to protect the marine environment of

the North Atlantic. It is also working to bring radioactive discharges to as 'close to zero' as possible by 2020.

Reports that are being considered for a joint submission include the increase of marine radioactive discharges from a new nuclear build programme in

England and Wales, Fukushima and marine pollution, concerns over the contamination of Fife's Dalgety Bay and Dounreay and an update on floating nuclear power plants.

An update on OSPAR will be provided in the NFLA Jan / Feb 2012 newsletters.

## Welsh energy needs – NFLA Cardiff seminar

The NFLA Secretariat is working with councils in South Wales to develop a further seminar on Welsh energy needs, which will be held in County Hall, Cardiff in February.

The seminar follows up progress since the meeting between the NFLA and the Welsh Environment Minister, as well as the NFLA's submissions on Welsh energy policy and on

Hinkley proposed discharge permits.

Further details on the speakers and date of this seminar will be noted in the January newsletter.



Councillor Hackett & the NFLA Secretary at the recent Mayors for Peace Executive Board meeting in Granollers



The Mayor of Hiroshima receives the 2011 Spanish UNA Peace Award in Barcelona

### **NFLA letters to the media, December 2011 (directly emailed to members):**

- Green taxes and the strong public support in the UK for renewables
- George Monbiot should stop ignoring inconvenient facts with his pro-nuclear column
- What are the answers to tackling fuel poverty?
- The Irish Government needs to challenge developments at Sellafield
- NFLA membership benefits Fife

## NFLA follows up Scottish concerns / NFLA Scotland AGM

The NFLA Secretariat is following up the concerns it has made to the Scottish Energy and Environment Ministers on fuel poverty and changes in SEPA contaminated land policy.

This follows the closure of part of the Dalgety Bay coastline in Fife as

radioactive particles, arising from dumped World War 2 airplanes, continue to appear on the beach. Concerns also remain over which agency will clean up this incident, and other similar issues around Scotland.

The NFLA Scotland Forum will be holding

its AGM in Paisley in early February. Plans are underway to also hold a seminar which will consider these matters, along with the debate over Trident submarines located in Scotland, and the MOD's consultation on dismantling redundant nuclear submarines.

## NFLA writes to new Irish President & Environment Ministers

The NFLA Secretariat has written letters to the new Irish President and to the Irish Environment Ministers on relevant matters of interest.

The letter to the Irish President Michael D Higgins congratulates him on his election and seeks his views and

support for a more proactive Irish involvement in the nuclear weapons debate, of which he has taken a passionate interest in over several decades.

A letter has also gone to Phil Hogan TD, the Republic's Environment Minister, seeking a meeting over the

potential development of a new plutonium fabrication plant at Sellafield and other new nuclear facilities in the UK.

A letter of thanks has also been sent to Alex Attwood MLA, Northern Ireland's Environment Minister, who spoke at the recent NFLA AGM.

## Forthcoming NFLA meetings (see the NFLA website)

**NFLA Steering Committee, 27<sup>th</sup> January, Town Hall, Manchester.**

**NFLA Scotland Forum, 10<sup>th</sup> February, Town Hall, Paisley (date tbc).**

**NFLA Welsh Forum, 17<sup>th</sup> February, Town Hall, Cardiff (date tbc).**

**NFLA English Forum, 24<sup>th</sup> February, Civic Hall, Leeds (date tbc).**

**NFLA All Ireland Forum, 9<sup>th</sup> March (date and location tbc).**

**NFLA Steering Committee, 16<sup>th</sup> March, Town Hall, Manchester.**