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Useful website Links:

NFLA: <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
CNFE: <http://www.cnfe.eu>
Mayors for Peace: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>
2020 Vision: <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>
KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>
ICAN-UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Official launch of the Mayors for Peace in Manchester Town Hall with the Lord Mayor of Manchester

Hinkley 'state aid' response goes in

A joint NFLA / CNFE / Stop Hinkley submission to the European Commission was issued calling for it to reject the UK's 'strike price' deal with EDF for new nuclear build at Hinkley Point.

The submission is part of a one month public consultation by the Commission to consider whether the UK – EDF

deal is a legitimate type of national state financial support.

The Commission's initial view is quite sceptical of the deal. It will make its final view either in the summer or later this year. EDF have said their final investment decision will not be made until at least July. Public responses are welcome.

The NFLA's written submission goes into great detail in arguing the deal is an effective illegal subsidy and it would distort the UK electricity market. It has the full support of the Vienna-led 'Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe' and the group 'Stop Hinkley'.

The submission is on the NFLA website.

Bike for Peace tour for a nuclear weapons free world

Manchester, Coventry and London were the locations for the start of the 2014 'Bike for Peace' world tour this March.

Bike for Peace is a Norwegian based NGO which uses cycling as a way to promote peace and sustainability. Its 2014 tour has been dedicated to support the work of Mayors for

Peace, and its aim for a nuclear weapons free world.

The tour formally started with a launch event in Manchester Town Hall at which the Lord Mayor of Manchester; former PM of Norway, Kjell-Magne Bondevik; and Bikes for Peace President, Tore Naerland; were some of the speakers. Then in Coventry the group met

the Lord Mayor of Coventry and held an event in the Coventry Peace House. Moving on to London the group met MPs and reps from CND and ICAN-UK.

The group has moved on to France, Italy, China, Japan, USA & Norway. NFLA & Mayors for Peace welcome this support before the 2014 NPT PrepCom.

NFLA media releases

March 2014:

(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA Scotland support Walk for Peace tour
- NFLA submission calls on ABWR design not to be 'justified'
- Incident at Dungeness – where is the openness and transparency?
- NFLA Welsh Forum joins with other groups to hold meeting on Wylfa B
- NFLA remembers third Fukushima anniversary
- Euro Commission should reject Hinkley deal as illegal state aid
- NFLA concerns over serious issues with Dounreay Vulcan test reactor
- NFLA welcomes new nuclear security report
- NFLA publishes nuclear marine transportation weaknesses report



Large North Wales audience discusses Wylfa Newydd

A well attended meeting was held in Caernarfon to raise the views of groups opposed to new nuclear build at Wylfa in Anglesey.

The bilingual meeting was jointly organised by NFLA, People Against Wylfa B (PAWB), CND Cymru and Friends of the Earth Cymru.

The seminar had a thoughtful presentation from Carl Clowes and his son Cian Ciaran, who is in the pop group 'Super Furry Animals', on their visit to the Fukushima area.

The NFLA Secretary talked about its Hinkley Point submission and its submission on the Wylfa

ABWR design.

Neil Crumpton talked about renewable energy alternatives and Tim Deere-Jones outlined his concerns on the effects of severe flooding on marine discharges. A robust public debate took place. Presentations can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA English Forum / SC holds meeting & seminar in Leeds

The NFLA English Forum held a joint seminar with the Steering Committee, considering three issues of real interest to member authorities.

The seminar followed a meeting of the NFLA Steering Committee, which approved a number of consultation submissions and NFLA

Policy Briefings.

The seminar first looked at the radiation issues in the shale gas fracking process, with a presentation from Ian Fairlie.

Energy policy consultant Stephen Cirell spoke of the growing moves for Councils to develop more definitive energy

policies, and how funds can be unlocked for them. CND Chair Dave Webb talked about Trident and the wider nuclear disarmament debate, just 13 months before the UK general election.

The presentations will be placed on the NFLA website.

NFLA All Ireland Forum holds spring meeting in Newry

The NFLA All Ireland Forum will be holding its Spring 2014 meeting and seminar in Newry Council offices in mid April.

The meeting will look at

Irish energy issues and local Council changes.

The seminar includes inputs from Matthew Kennedy of the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, Declan Allison

of Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland, and the NFLA Secretary.

The flyer & registration details for the meeting can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA letters to media,
March 2014:
(emailed to members)

- Well done Hull! Now its time to create more green jobs
- It's time to overhaul the nuclear openness & transparency regime
- Government claims to be the 'greenest' ever at variance with Budget cuts
- Green Deal take-up is more than just a little 'disappointing'
- The Chernobyl disaster and the use of misleading health statistics

NFLA SUPPORTS WALK FOR PEACE TOUR

NFLA Scotland is supporting the CND 'Walk for Peace' which takes places 1 – 7 April.

It is seeking to promote nuclear disarmament & starts at the Scottish Parliament.

It also involves a major march and a rally in Glasgow on 5th April.



Bike for Peace tour starting in Manchester Town Hall

Fukushima three years on – major Parliamentary event

Events were held all around the world to commemorate the third anniversary of the Fukushima disaster.

In the UK a number of events were held in London, including a Parliamentary meeting, which the NFLA helped to facilitate; which was organised by CND.

Speakers at the meeting talked about some of the problems at the Fukushima site, the health and community issues and the impacts of the incident for the UK and across Europe.

The NFLA Secretariat also met with reps from Green Cross, a Swiss based NGO whose

patron is Mikhail Gorbachev.

It is hoped the two groups can co-operate again in the future with joint events. Green Cross is taking a delegation across to the Fukushima area this October to look at the ongoing effects of the incident.

Nuclear sector and concerns over openness & transparency

The NFLA have joined in a strongly worded NGO letter to the Office for Nuclear Regulation after the MOD Minister Philip Hammond announced to Parliament that increased levels of radioactivity had been found in the Vulcan test reactor at Dounreay.

The reactor is involved

in the development of nuclear powered submarines. The MOD has known about this issue for two years and had informed regulators, but not Parliament, nor the Scottish Government.

A major political row has ensued. The joint NGO letter asks why ONR & SEPA agreed to this

secrecy despite formal policies of openness & transparency.

This follows a media story which notes that the Dungeness reactor in Kent had closed for over 5 months in 2013 to repair sea defences, with little public information. NFLA have issued media releases on this matter.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

Walk for Peace, Edinburgh to Faslane, 1st – 7th April

NFLA All Ireland Forum, Council Offices, Newry, 11th April

NFLA Scotland Forum, Town Hall, Clydebank, 25th April

Mayors for Peace board meeting, City Hall, Sarajevo, 7th and 8th June

NFLA Steering Committee and tour of NFLA archive, Manchester Town Hall and Central Library, 20th June