NFLA meets Irish Government

The NFLA All Ireland Forum Chairs and NFLA Secretariat officers met with officials from the Irish Government to discuss a number of nuclear policy issues.

This second meeting with the Government in recent months included a robust discussion over its recent report on health risks to Ireland from the Sellafield site.

The NFLA strongly challenged the Irish Environment Department’s officials on this report and the impression it may give around the Government’s wider policy position with regard to the Sellafield site. In response the officials said the report gave the Government a greater understanding of the site and stood by its main findings.

The meeting discussed the Irish Government’s view on UK new nuclear build. It also looked at NFLA concerns over the HMS Tireless submarine leak. A more detailed NFLA media release is on the NFLA website.

NFLA meets Vienna group on Europe Nuclear Free Network

The NFLA Chair and NFLA Secretary gave a presentation to Vienna City Council’s Environment Council to discuss increasing co-operation with a Vienna-led Network of Cities working for a nuclear-free Europe.

Vienna’s Environment Council is a cross-party group that scrutinizes the Council’s policy on all environmental and animal welfare matters. The Council was in the UK for various fact-finding reasons & invited the NFLA to talk on how to increase co-operation on nuclear policy.

The NFLA provided an overview of nuclear policy matters in the UK and Ireland. NFLA see many useful benefits in developing a European Network.

The NFLA presentation was warmly received and a detailed Q & A session took place.

Vienna’s Deputy Mayor Ulli Sima welcomed the co-operation with NFLA and agreed it should focus on the European nuclear policy agenda. Vienna are developing a new Network website.
Progress with submarine dismantling - Edinburgh meeting

The NFLA Secretary and officers and members from Fife Council will be present at an important meeting of the Ministry of Defence’s Submarine Dismantling Project.

The MOD meeting in Edinburgh is considering its recent decision to develop a demonstrator at Rosyth to remove the Reactor Pressure Vessel from a single redundant nuclear submarine.

The meeting will allow the MOD to explain their reasoning behind this decision. It may also put forward strategies for a site selection process on the future location of radioactive waste deriving from the submarine dismantling programme.

The MOD is also asking delegates to comment on public participation in this decision-making process.

The NFLA Secretary will also attend a sub-group meeting taking this process forward.

NFLA All Ireland Forum to discuss UK new build / Irish wind

The NFLA All Ireland Forum will be holding its rearranged seminar in Swords on June 7th to consider two key issues.

The central part of the seminar will consider the RPII’s report on the possible radiological risks to Ireland of UK new nuclear reactors on the west coast of England and Wales. Dr Ciara McMahon will present the RPII’s main findings and Dr Ian Fairlie will give his independent analysis of the report.

Like Greenpeace UK, the Irish National Trust has tabled a legal request for a judicial review on the Hinkley Point development.

The seminar will also consider the issues with developing some very large wind farms in the Irish Midlands. Grattan Healy of the National Offshore Wind Assoc’n will provide an overview of this key debate.

The seminar flyer is on the NFLA website.

NFLA Steering Committee and English Forum seminar set

The next NFLA Steering Committee and a rearranged joint SC / English Forum seminar will be held in Manchester Town Hall on June 28th.

The meeting will consider all key nuclear policy matters the NFLA is involved with.

The seminar is looking at future changes to UK radioactive waste policy, planning issues with shale gas extraction and contaminated scrap metal.

A seminar flyer can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA media releases

May 2013:

(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA publish reports on fuel poverty, energy efficiency and the Green Deal
- NFLA meets Vienna Environment Council to discuss further co-operation
- SSE and Centrica concerns on new nuclear should be heeded
- NFLA meets Irish Government about nuclear concerns

NuLeAF seminar on Magnox contract process

Manchester City Council is hosting a special seminar organised by the LGA Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum on the 19th June.

The seminar will explain to Councils how the process for awarding contracts for the next ten-year period of the operation & decommissioning of the Magnox nuclear reactors in the UK is going.

If you would like to attend (Councils only) contact the NuLeAF Secretary, Catherine Draper on: Catherine.draper@suffolk.gov.uk.

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NFLA publish reports on fuel poverty and the Green Deal

The NFLA Secretariat has published two detailed reports that consider fuel poverty, energy efficiency, the UK Government’s Green Deal and the Green Investment Bank.

The reports had been requested by the NFLA Steering Committee to get a greater understanding of the issues and the positive role local authorities can play in these areas.

The fuel poverty and energy efficiency report highlights that across the British Isles the amount of fuel poor households has rapidly increased in recent years. It notes the real benefits of energy efficiency and the lead role Councils can play in its promotion.

In its Green Deal report the NFLA welcomes its development. However, it argues the policy is lacking in real ambition. Both reports can be downloaded from the NFLA website.

NFLA publish report on NPT PrepCom and Mayors for Peace

The NFLA Secretariat is also publishing a report which provides an overview of involvement in the recent United Nations Nuclear Non-proliferation Preparatory Conference and ‘Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision’ meetings.

Representing Mayors for Peace Vice President City Manchester, the NFLA Chair and NFLA Secretary attended a UK-France Defence Treaty seminar, discussed policy with a number of National Ambassadors and attended meetings of the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Board.

The report will provide both an overview of the

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA All Ireland Forum, 7th June,
Fingal County Hall.

NuLeAF seminar on Magnox contract process, 19th June,
Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA Steering Committee, 28th June,
Manchester Town Hall.

NFLA English Forum / SC seminar, 28th June, Manchester
Town Hall.

NFLA Scotland, 23rd August, Western
Isles Town Hall, Stornoway.

Further Forum meeting dates will be confirmed shortly.