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Useful website / partner 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>



Attendees for the UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Working Group, Manchester Town Hall

Hinkley Point C approved by EU

The NFLA has noted its disappointment with the European Commission's decision to approve the Hinkley Point C deal as legitimate state aid.

The sizable deal between EDF and the UK Government was approved by a majority of the Commission in early October. The Austrian Commissioner

voted against the deal and the Chancellor of the Austrian Government has said it will legally challenge the decision.

Other governments & a large body of academics & renewable energy companies may support Austria's legal challenge.

In its media response, NFLA are concerned how

the Commission has changed so much from its earlier viewpoint, published in December.

It should be noted that the Commission is looking separately at the waste transfer pricing part of the deal. The National Audit Office is also analysing the deal. The NFLA media release is on its website.

Councils agree in principle to develop M4P Chapter

At a special meeting of the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Working Group it was agreed in principle to establish a cross-national Chapter.

The meeting in Manchester Town Hall was chaired by the Lord Mayor of Manchester and included Member Councils from across the British and

Irish Isles.

The request to develop national Chapters was made at the Mayors for Peace Conference in Hiroshima, & Lead City Manchester has been working to this aim.

The meeting agreed to provisionally call the UK & Irish chapter the 'Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace', to

account for the different nature of most ceremonial Mayors and Provosts across the British and Irish Isles.

NFLA warmly welcomes this development as part of an international movement for the eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons. Go to the Mayors for Peace website for further details and information.

**NFLA media releases
October 2014:
(On NFLA website.)**

- NFLA Scotland Forum looks at key Scottish nuclear issues at meeting in Perth
- NFLA alarmed but not surprised by leaked Sellafield photographs
- NFLA asks if our defence nuclear sector is truly safe after 300 plus reported incidents at Faslane
- NFLA English Forum looks at defence nuclear safety and weapons concerns
- NFLA concerned over profusion of nuclear safety incidents in Scotland
- NFLA & KIMO call for urgent inquiry into Parida fire off the Scottish coast
- NFLA disappointed with Commission Hinkley decision and welcomes Austrian legal challenge
- NFLA writes to Irish Government to seek views on European Commission Hinkley decision

English Forum discusses defence nuclear safety concerns

The NFLA English Forum held its autumn seminar in Oxford Town Hall focusing on defence nuclear safety and nuclear weapons concerns.

Peter Burt of NIS highlighted a list of serious defence nuclear safety incidents in the UK, and called on

improved regulatory actions, openness and transparency.

The NFLA Secretary highlighted to members the upcoming consultation of the Submarine Dismantling Project.

Nigel Day of Nukewatch outlined its work and reported a number of

safety incidents affecting nuclear weapon convoys. Rebecca Sharkey of ICAN-UK noted the real need for the UK Government to be involved in discussion on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

The presentations are on the NFLA website.

NFLA Scotland looks at key Scottish nuclear issues

The NFLA Scotland Forum held a business meeting and seminar in Perth on key issues of interest to its members.

At the seminar Eann Sinclair of the Caithness & N Sutherland Regeneration Partnership looked at ways it was seeking to develop a post Dounreay renewable rich economy.

The NFLA Secretary profiled his report on the development of Council energy policies.

The NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor gave an overview of a number of radioactive waste and contamination issues affecting communities in Scotland, such as at Dalgety Bay in Fife.

John Boocock and Tor Justad of Highland Against Nuclear Transport highlighted their campaigns raising its concerns over the sea, road and rail transports of radioactive materials in Northern Scotland.

The presentations are on the NFLA website.

NFLA Welsh and Irish Forum meetings in November

The NFLA Welsh Forum holds its autumn seminar on the 7th November in Cardiff City Hall.

The seminar will include a presentation on the

ongoing effects of Fukushima and its impacts on nuclear safety and new build.

The NFLA All Ireland Forum is now planned for the 12th December

and will be in Dublin City Hall. It will look at nuclear new build and its impact on Ireland, and Irish energy policy. See the NFLA website for further details.

EDF to restart reactors as wind power breaks UK records

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

- What will be the waste costs of Hinkley Point C?
- Hinkley C deal should be thoroughly investigated by National Audit Office
- Give Councils the power to drive a new energy revolution

EDF have announced plans to restart nuclear reactors at Heysham and Hartlepool in December, but only at 75% of their full capacity.

The reactors have been closed several months now after structural problems were found in the boiler spine at

Heysham No 1 reactor.

The 75% capacity is due to concerns that cracks in the graphite bricks could worsen if the reactors were powered at full heat.

Concerns over UK energy infrastructure increased after a fire closed half of the Didcot

coal powered fire station.

Renewable energy has plugged these gaps with wind energy generation reaching new highs in October, for the first time surpassing UK nuclear generation.

See 'NFLA news' on its website for details.

Profusion of nuclear safety incidents in Scotland

NFLA are raising concerns with the civil and defence nuclear regulator, government and Select Committees after a profusion of nuclear safety incidents in Scotland in October.

These included a fire on board the MS Parida, which was transporting radioactive materials by

sea from Dounreay to Belgium. The ship was for a time running adrift, requiring evacuation of an oil rig.

Two major breakdowns also took place at the Hunterston site as gas circulators were damaged due to human error. Cracks in the reactor's graphite bricks

have also come to light.

A fire at the Dounreay site was also reported, as was excessive emissions of tritium gas at the Chapelcross site.

With over 300 safety incidents also reported at Faslane in 2008 – 13, the NFLA are calling for a major safety review.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Welsh Forum, Cardiff City Hall, 7th November.

NFLA Steering Committee & AGM, Edinburgh City Chambers, 28th November.

CNFE meeting / Mayors for Peace meeting, City Hall, Vienna, 6th and 7th December.

NFLA All Ireland Forum, City Hall, Dublin, 12th December.

NFLA Steering Committee, Manchester Town Hall, 30th January.

UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter, Manchester Town Hall, 30th January.

NFLA AGM, CNFE MEETING AND MAYORS FOR PEACE MEETING AT END THE YEAR

The 34th NFLA AGM and Annual Policy Seminar takes place in Edinburgh on the 28th November.

The day includes the final NFLA Steering Committee meeting of 2014, the NFLA Annual General Meeting and its Annual Policy Seminar.

The NFLA Chair and NFLA Secretary will also be meeting with representatives from the Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe Team, and attending a Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision meeting in Vienna on 5th and 6th December.