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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>



A Mayors for Peace exhibition during the recent G7 Foreign Ministers meeting (Source: Mayors for Peace)

Obama visits Hiroshima

President Obama made a historic visit to Hiroshima in May and visited its moving Peace Memorial Museum and the cenotaph for those killed in the 1945 atomic bombing.

Mayors for Peace and the NFLA welcome the visit and Obama's call for a nuclear weapon free world. In its media

release, NFLA called for much more engagement with nuclear disarmament talks and to reverse decisions for major up-grades of US & UK nuclear weapons.

UN talks in Geneva are trying to find ways to unlock the stalemate in nuclear disarmament discussions, with many non nuclear weapon

states calling for a Nuclear Weapons Treaty.

In related issues, NFLA has submitted its views on Trident replacement to the Labour Defence Review. NFLA also welcomes a recent event in Parliament which briefed MPs on the ethics and morality of nuclear weapons – a report of it is on the ICAN website.

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The NFLA English Forum and Steering Committee can confirm high profile speakers at its June seminar. It considers how the UK could prioritise a policy of defence diversification & decentralised energy as the motor for a new type of dynamic and jobs-rich industrial policy.

The keynote speaker is

Alan Simpson, who is a sustainable economics advisor for the Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell. He is also a specialist on the benefits of moving towards more decentralised energy solutions.

Steve Schofield of the 'LESS Network' will provide an analysis of the benefits of a UK Defence Diversification

Agency to assist moves to transform industry into new sectors.

Peter Burt of NIS will focus on how such policies could transform Aldermaston & Burghfield, and the NFLA Secretary will launch the 'Get it from the Sun' initiative. Ali Abbas will talk about the Greater Manchester Community Renewables scheme.

NFLA media releases

May 2016:

(On NFLA website.)

- NFLA publish analysis of nuclear security threats – how safe are we?
- NFLA welcome Obama Hiroshima visit but call for more disarmament work.
- NFLA publishes views on potassium iodine tablets.
- NFLA submits views on EA’s consultation on the process for de-licensing nuclear reactors.
- NFLA welcome UN decision on inadequate consultation for Hinkley Point C.
- US – UK transports of highly enriched uranium: global security at risk for commercial gain.



Martin Birdseye of Pax Christi presents to MPs a report on some of the moral and ethical issues of nuclear weapons at Parliamentary event (Source: ICAN UK)



The Mayors for Peace exhibition in Hiroshima Conference Centre (Source: Mayors for Peace)

NFLA Forums prepare for informative seminars

The NFLA Forums in Scotland, Ireland and Wales have confirmed their programmes for June spring seminars.

In Glasgow, the NFLA Scotland will hold a business meeting and receive updates on post election nuclear issues. The NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor will also

profile his report on how Scotland can move forward with its pro-renewables policy.

There will also be progress reports on Dalgety Bay, Trident and nuclear convoys.

In Swords, the NFLA All Ireland Forum holds a seminar looking at Irish

energy futures and the impact of UK new nuclear on Ireland.

In Bridgend, NFLA Wales will look at the future of nuclear power and renewable energy in Wales and the impacts of radioactive discharges to the sea. The flyers for all four NFLA seminars are on the NFLA website.

NFLA submits views on de-licensing nuclear reactors

The NFLA Secretariat has submitted detailed views to the 3 environment agencies in England, Scotland & Wales on the process for de-licensing decommissioned nuclear reactors and removing them from radioactive substances regulation.

Whilst welcoming this early consideration of

such matters as reactors across Britain start to consider full decommissioning, NFLA raises some concern with the proposals.

The three key concerns for the NFLA are that the way of releasing sites from regulation appears too flexible, there are real issues for

local authorities to take over control of such sites as their budgets are slashed, and the proposals appear to suggest that some sites will allow unrestricted use despite containing up to 20Msv/yr levels of radiation. A NFLA Radioactive Waste Briefing can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA’s views on Dounreay transports in ‘The Ecologist’

The NFLA has had its detailed concerns over the proposed transport of highly radioactive materials from the Dounreay site to the United States published by ‘The Ecologist’.

NFLA are concerned that materials being transported by rail and sea from Dounreay to Sellafield may now be bound for reprocessing in the US, in a ‘back room’ deal made at the

Nuclear Security summit in Washington. NFLA believe this material should be stored safely at Dounreay. A link to the full article is available on the NFLA website.

NFLA letters to media, May 2016:
(Emailed to NFLA members.)

- Energy policies need refocusing.
- Obama's Hiroshima visit should be spur to restart nuclear weapons talks.
- Falsification scandal by Areva should be end of the road for Hinkley Point C.
- France shouldn't have to sell the family silver to fund Hinkley Point C.

LAUNCH OF GM COMMUNITY RENEWABLES – PART OF A COMMUNITY ENERGY FUTURE?

NFLA welcomes the launch of Greater Manchester Community Renewables with its first share offer to fund solar panels at three schools in Salford & Irlam, and a community building in Partington.

This will help to save them money, reduce carbon emissions and inspire children (and grown-ups!) to learn more about energy and climate change.

Find out how you can invest in the project at gmcr.org.uk/invest, and follow - @WeAreGMCR on Facebook or Twitter.



Hinkley Point C – more issues and problems for EDF

Much debate has continued throughout May over whether EDF will decide to build two nuclear reactors at Hinkley Point in Somerset.

At EDF's AGM in France there was considerable vocal resistance from unions and some shareholders, arguing there

needs to be a delay of around 3 years to the project.

EDF's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's and Standard & Poor, over concern if the company makes a positive investment decision on Hinkley Point.

Within the French Gov-

ernment, the President and PM say the project will go ahead, but the Energy Minister calls for a much more cautious approach. UK media also suggest a 'Plan B' is being devised in which Chinese nuclear utilities buy the site. NFLA's media releases on this matter are on the NFLA website.

NFLA publishes nuclear EP and security briefings

The NFLA published in May two briefings considering nuclear emergency planning & nuclear security issues.

The nuclear EP report was drafted by Ian Fairlie as part of his submission to the House of Commons Science Committee. It calls for a national dis-

tribution of iodine tablets to protect the public from an accident or terrorist incident.

The nuclear security report was compiled by David Lowry, an independent analyst, with the NFLA Secretary.

The report outlines some of the key security issues and

assesses the effectiveness of governments in dealing with them.

The report concludes that governments are underestimating the growing nuclear security threat from both malevolent individuals and groups. Both reports are available on the NFLA website.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Scotland Forum, Glasgow City Chambers, June 3rd (note new venue)

NFLA All Ireland Forum meeting, Fingal County Hall, Swords, June 10th

NFLA Welsh Forum, Civic Offices, Bridgend, June 17th

NFLA Steering Committee, Room 301, Manchester Town Hall, June 24th

NFLA English Forum / SC joint seminar, Room 301, Level 3, Manchester Town Hall, June 24th