

# NFLA Policy Briefing No. 232



**Date: 30 April 2022**

**Subject: Developments and NFLA Progress Report, April 2022**

## 1. *Introduction*

This paper outlines the work of the NFLA Secretary and recent developments within the civil nuclear industry, renewable technology, and in connection with Mayors for Peace and nuclear disarmament in April.

This is the third monthly report prepared for NFLA member authorities and supporters as Bulletins rather than a single report for the next SC in May.

This month the United Nations issued a dire warning that the world needs to cut global emissions of CO2 by half within this decade to avoid the worst impact of climate change.

In response, the Johnson Government published its UK Energy Security Strategy, with the greatest media and public focus on the proposed investment in 24 GW of electricity generation using the slowest, most expensive, and most polluting technology possible – by committing to building up to eight new nuclear power plants.

The detail is reproduced in Section 7 with thanks to former Secretary Sean Morris for this information. Thanks too are also due to our friend Dr Ian Fairlie, for the following comments and links:

All in all, (the Johnson Government's) much trumped energy plans were a PR disaster for the Government. They were almost uniformly panned in media in the UK and overseas, as follows

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/nils-pratley-on-finance/2022/apr/07/johnsons-political-cowardice-applies-the-brake-to-cheap-energy-as-he-bets-nuclear>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/apr/06/major-misjudgement-how-the-tories-got-their-energy-strategy-so-wrong>

<https://cnduk.org/new-nuclear-reactors-not-the-answer-to-energy-security-says-cnd/>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/uk-to-build-8-nuclear-reactors-amid-new-energy-strategy/2022/04/07/d5f6ca9c-b659-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/uk-to-build-8-nuclear-reactors-amid-new-energy-strategy/2022/04/07/d5f6ca9c-b659-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4_story.html)

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES:  
41 YEARS WORKING FOR A RENEWABLE, SAFE & PEACEFUL  
FUTURE**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/uk-to-build-8-nuclear-reactors-amid-new-energy-strategy/2022/04/07/d5f6ca9c-b659-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/uk-to-build-8-nuclear-reactors-amid-new-energy-strategy/2022/04/07/d5f6ca9c-b659-11ec-8358-20aa16355fb4_story.html)

<https://www.theenergymix.com/2022/04/08/uk-energy-plan-boosts-nuclear-and-offshore-oil-ignores-cheapest-paths-to-cutting-carbon/>

<https://www.euronews.com/green/2022/04/03/more-nuclear-power-in-the-uk-will-create-high-quality-jobs-so-why-is-there-so-much-opposit>

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/20015040.ukraine-war-excuse-boris-johnson-push-nuclear-power-expert-says/>

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/energy-security-strategy-nuclear-power-wpfc2kb3j>

plus the influential Times editorial

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/nuclear-option-risks-turning-into-dust-9lnw5pr67>

<https://www.ft.com/content/e78f8178-b230-45d6-86d5-49b1e5b37ac4>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/uk-nuclear-plant-energy-strategy-b2052861.html>

plus see funny cartoon in the Guardian (PS the correct spelling is Hinkley)

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/picture/2022/apr/07/steve-bell-on-boris-johnsons-nuclear-energy-plans-cartoon>

## 2 *The work of the NFLA Secretary*

### 2a. *Consultation and Lobbying:*

**Establishing an NDA NGO Forum:** The NFLA Secretary initiated and is now coordinating negotiations between officials of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and representatives from NGOs to establish a new and comprehensive NGO Forum for the NDA, which will be a first. This follows on the work first started by former Secretary, Sean Morris.

An initial discussion has been held and the NDA are now working on a first draft of terms of reference and membership for review by the NGO side, before a second meeting will be convened later in May. It is hoped that the NDA NGO Forum will be established by mid-2022.

**Investing in Change campaign:** In support of the Investing in Change campaign targeting leading banks and pension funds financing nuclear weapons, the NFLA sent letters to the CEOs of Barclays, HSBC, NatWest, Nest, the People's Pension and Royal London Insurance asking them to divest from nuclear weapons.

Recent research by ICAN, the Nuclear Weapons Financing Research Group, a coalition of UK faith groups, and PAX, a Dutch peace group, has revealed that almost

US \$32 billion (or approximately UK £25 billion) is invested by UK based financial institutions in companies engaged in nuclear weapons manufacturing.

This correspondence has been sent in advance of six Days of Action being called by the Investing to Change network, on which they are asking customers and shareholders to contact their banks and pension providers to protest against their current policies.

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/just-do-the-right-thing-nuclear-free-local-authorities-join-call-on-financiers-to-divest-from-nuclear-weapons/>

**Fukushima Waste Dumping:** The NFLA has endorsed a letter with Welsh anti-nuclear activists which has now been sent to the Prime Minister and senior Ministers in the Japanese Government calling upon them to refrain from dumping over a million tons of contaminated water from Fukushima into the ocean. The NFLA issued a media release which includes the contents of the letter:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/no-dumping-at-fukushima-nfla-joins-welsh-call-to-japanese-government-not-to-ditch-radioactive-water-at-sea/>

## **2b. Media**

In April the Secretary has issued the following media releases:

- NFLA fears anniversary missile salvo signals continued danger to Ukrainian nuclear plants – 27 April
- ‘Just do the right thing’: Nuclear Free Local Authorities join call on financiers to divest from nuclear weapons – 26 April
- No dumping at Fukushima: NFLA joins Welsh call to Japanese Government not to ditch radioactive water at sea – 21 April
- Energy Department’s own survey shows 8 in 10 Britons support onshore wind – and the NFLA says the Government should back it – 20 April
- “Characterized by cost overruns and significant delays”: the nuclear projects built by the UK Government’s new US partners – 19 April
- Minister appears not to have given a second thought to Sizewell approval – 13 April
- Johnson’s ‘nuclear fantasy’ will not reduce rising fuel bills or rising temperatures – 11 April

A newsletter will be released at the end of April.

## **2c. Briefings**

In April the Secretary has issued the following briefings:

- NFLA Policy Briefing 231: Nuclear Power Stations and Sea Level Rise

## **2d. Meetings, Seminars and Webinars**

In April the Secretary has attended the following formal meetings:

- ICAN Scottish Roundtable – 5 April
- ICAN in the UK – 12 April
- Joint BEIS/ONR NGO Forum – 13 April
- One Young World launch – 14 April
- No More Trident – 26 April
- Radioactive Waste Planning Group – 28 April

The Secretary attended the excellent seminar '***Nuclear Power Not Fit for Purpose***' on 4 April with Dr Paul Dorfman, who is Chair of Nuclear Consult and an advisor to the NFLA, delivering a fascinating presentation.

The webinar and slides can be accessed via the link below and this is recommended:

<https://cnduk.org/nuclear-power-not-fit-for-purpose-watch-back-cnd-webinar/>

On 6 April, NFLA hosted a webinar, with support from British Pugwash, titled '***Will the sea take them?***' about the possible impact of rising sea levels on coastal nuclear facilities. The event was chaired by NFLA Steering Committee Chair Councillor David Blackburn, with Dr Sally Brown from Bournemouth University and Peter Roche, NFLA Policy Advisor.

35 participants joined the call.

The video presentations by Dr Sally Brown and Pete Roche can be found on the Pugwash YouTube channel here:

Dr Sally Brown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xq8B7eg6Eso>

Pete Roche

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghfEiJVYg5g>

The slide presentations by Dr Sally Brown and Pete Roche can be found on the NFLA website here:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/presentations/will-the-sea-take-them-the-threat-of-climate-change-to-nuclear-facilities-a-nuclear-free-local-authorities-special-webinar/>

The NFLA briefing produced by Pete Roche can be found on the NFLA website here:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/briefings/nfla-policy-briefing-231-nuclear-power-stations-and-sea-level-rise/>

Other introductory meetings have been held with COSLA (4/4), Abundance Investment (5/4), Labrats (6/4), 80,000 Voices (12/4), Friends of Manchester Peace Garden (14/4)

### **3 New nuclear power developments**

#### **3a. Large nuclear reactors**

##### **Hinkley Point C:**

**Power plant project puts pressure on local housing provision:** Hinkley Point C will require 3,000 more workers than first estimated, which is putting pressure on accommodation facilities. The firm is working with local authorities in the region to determine the logistics of the increased demand for housing infrastructure. Earlier, it

was expected that the workforce on site would peak at 5,600. Hinkley Point C senior community relations manager Andrew Cockcroft said: “As construction progresses, the number of people working on the project will increase to around 8,500. Plans are in place to manage these numbers, and we’re working with local authorities to increase the amount of accommodation available to the workforce.”

<https://www.constructionnews.co.uk/contractors/bouygues/hinkley-point-c-logistics-challenge-revealed-as-3000-more-workers-needed-04-04-2022/>

EDF Energy offers only £1m extra for affordable homes in Somerset as Hinkley Point C workforce set to rise.

<https://www.somersetlive.co.uk/news/somerset-news/edf-energy-offers-only-1m-6943586>

**Sizewell C:** The decision of the Department of Business Energy and Industry Strategy on the Sizewell C application is expected on 25 May. The Secretary of State clearly breached his own ministerial guidelines requiring him to make no public statement in prejudging the application by announcing on the BBC Today programme on 7 April that “we (the government) are committed to Sizewell C” and by announcing the government would take a 20% stake in the development. The NFLA Chair has written to the Permanent Secretary of the department to make an official complaint about the Minister’s conduct.

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/minister-appears-not-to-have-given-a-second-thought-to-sizewell-approval/>

**Bradwell:** At a recent meeting with officials from the Office of Nuclear Regulator we were told that the agency would not be devoting any ‘significant’ staff resources to Bradwell suggesting no developments are anticipated any time soon.

**Wylfa:** The UK Government has clearly committed to building at least one large power station at Wylfa on Ynys Môn. The Wylfa project, which has been in flux for years, will be progressed “as soon as possible this decade”, it said.

Local MP Virginia Crosbie, the so-called Atomic Kitten, has admitted she has been in talks with Bechtel and Westinghouse, two American companies, who have expressed an interest, and the Secretary of State for Wales has visited the Vogtle nuclear power plant being built in Georgia, USA by the commercial partners.

The only fly in the ointment is that Vogtle is massively behind schedule and above budget (now approaching \$30 billion), and there are disputes between the future operators and constructors.

<https://www.thenational.wales/environment/20052234.wylfa-nuclear-pledge-heart-uk-government-energy-strategy/>

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/latest/welsh-secretary-heads-to-us-to-progress-deal-for-wylfa-nuclear-plant-07-04-2022/>

<https://www.eenews.net/articles/plant-vogtle-hits-new-delays-costs-surge-near-30b/>

We also issued a media release on Vogtle:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/characterized-by-cost-overruns-and-significant-delays-the-nuclear-projects-built-by-the-uk-governments-new-us-partners/>

### 3b. *Small Modular Reactors*

**Billionaire Musk looking to build SMR fleet:** Rocket and electric car enthusiast Elon Musk is in talks with the government to build a fleet of mini-nuclear power stations across the UK. The firm, Last Energy, is looking to invest £1.4bn on 10 reactors, giving Rolls Royce a run for their money in the race to capitalise on the rush to build Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2022/04/02/government-talks-build-hundreds-mini-nuclear-reactors-across/> (Has a paywall but offers free trial)

**Rolls Royce seeking approval by mid-2024:** A Rolls-Royce design for a small modular nuclear reactor (SMR) will likely receive UK regulatory approval by mid-2024 and be able to produce grid power by 2029, Paul Stein, chairman of Rolls-Royce Small Modular Reactors, told Reuters.

The British government asked its nuclear regulator to start the approval process in March, having backed Rolls-Royce's \$546 million funding round in November to develop the country's first SMR reactor.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/rolls-royce-expecting-uk-approval-mini-nuclear-reactor-by-mid-2024-2022-04-19/>

Engineering groups worldwide are developing 70 different types of small, modular nuclear reactors.

<https://www.ft.com/content/ee9cc9cd-79e7-4e96-81df-b144e343f1ce>

### 3c. *Fusion Reactors:*

**More hype than light over fusion:** Oxford-based First Light Fusion, which has been developing an approach called projectile fusion since 2011, said it had produced energy in the form of neutrons by forcing deuterium isotopes to fuse, validating years of research. While other fusion experiments have generated more power for longer, either by using "tokamak" machines or high-powered lasers, First Light says its approach, which involves firing a projectile at a target containing the fuel, could offer a faster route to commercial fusion power.

<https://www.ft.com/content/cc39da72-7c9c-4a4a-9d51-1049a9badcac>

The pressure was greater than the centre of Jupiter. The temperature was approaching that found deep inside the Sun. The projectile was travelling at 6.5 kilometres per second.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel-in-nuclear-fusion-rphcgqvmx>

The experiment last five seconds and released 50 neutrons, a barely perceptible amount of energy

#### 4 **Existing nuclear power stations:**

**Cracking reported at Torness:** Cracks which could increase the risk of a radioactive accident have appeared at the ageing Torness nuclear power station in East Lothian. EDF Energy informed its local liaison group in February that three cracks had been found in the graphite core of one of the station's reactors, reported The Ferret. According to EDF, the cracks were "entirely expected" and would not "on their own" affect the safe operation of the power station.

NFLA Policy Advisor Pete Roche however made these comments to the newspaper. Logic suggests" that the closure date of Torness should be brought forward to 2024 or "soon after". Roche said: "EDF will obviously be hoping it can keep Torness open as long as possible, but it was only in May 2020 that we learnt that the cores of the two reactors were predicted to start cracking in 2022, six years earlier than previously thought. "Torness has a significant design difference, compared with Hunterston B, likely to make the problem worse. Torness may actually need to close as early as 2024 – six years earlier than the previously planned 2030 date – or soon after to avoid taking any unnecessary risks as the cracking gets worse."

[https://theferret.scot/first-cracks-found-in-torness-nuclear-reactor/?fbclid=IwAR0cvTA76Gjz692PqJsqC82pCv1SO4C\\_NU9QiK13yxxNCvKNhbFnjvl0No0](https://theferret.scot/first-cracks-found-in-torness-nuclear-reactor/?fbclid=IwAR0cvTA76Gjz692PqJsqC82pCv1SO4C_NU9QiK13yxxNCvKNhbFnjvl0No0)

**Sizewell B automatic shutdown:** Local residents were concerned to receive an email from EDF on 19 April:

**From:** Rousseau Niki <[niki.rousseau@edf-energy.com](mailto:niki.rousseau@edf-energy.com)>  
**Date:** 19 April 2022 at 16:55:44 BST  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients:  
**Subject:** Update from Sizewell B

[Classification: NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Dear Local resident,

*I am writing to update you on the current position at Sizewell B power station.*

*The reactor automatically shutdown at 17:24hrs, Monday 18th April 2022. Work is currently being carried out to discover the cause of the shutdown. The plant has responded as expected and at no time was anyone's safety put at risk.*

*Due to the automatic shutdown you will see and hear steam being released into the atmosphere. The steam is from clean water systems and does not present any threat to the public or the environment.*

*We will provide an update once the initial investigation has taken place.*

Regards

Niki

**Niki Rousseau**, Generation Sizewell B power station

The Sizewell B nuclear reactor is currently out of action following an "instrumentation fault", which caused the plant to shut down automatically.

An EDF spokesperson said: "We are pleased to confirm that the reactor and both turbines at Sizewell B are due to be back up and running in the next 24 hours following a short outage.

"The reactor automatically shut down safely on Monday, April 18 after an instrumentation fault. Sizewell B is the most productive station in the UK's nuclear fleet – in the past decade there has only been four days electricity generation lost due to unplanned shutdowns."

<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/business/fault-causes-power-station-to-shut-down-8909428>

**Extending the life of Sizewell B:** Under current plans Sizewell B PWR power station would wind up operations by 2035, but its operator EDF Energy has now said it will make a decision by 2024 whether that should be extended to 2055. The announcement coincided with the publishing of the government's new energy strategy.

<https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2022-04-07/energy-firm-to-look-at-extending-nuclear-power-plant-life-by-20-years>

**Robot exploration at Dounreay:** A robot has successfully surveyed an underground radioactive ventilation duct in Dounreay's redundant laboratories. Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd (DSRL) and the Robotics and Artificial Intelligence in Nuclear (RAIN) Hub are working together to develop a robot capable of accessing areas that are inaccessible or unsafe for humans to work in. The RAIN Hub is a consortium of universities led by the University of Manchester.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/robot-goes-underground-at-dounreay>

## 5. **Radioactive Waste**

- 5a. **Nuclear power plant plans could mean UK might run out of room for radioactive waste, says expert:** "The policy at the moment is that (the Geological Disposal Facility) [the dump] can take all of the legacy waste – everything we have generated in the last 70 years, plus up to 16GW of new nuclear build," said Professor Claire Corkhill, an expert in nuclear waste at the University of Sheffield. But if the UK builds 24GW of new nuclear it could run into a storage problem, she warns.

"My worry is that if we go to 24GW of nuclear energy then we might run out of room to store the radioactive waste," she said. "We've jumped the gun a little bit in saying that we are going to have this much new nuclear energy without thinking really about whether we have got anywhere suitable to put the waste." She said the government could look for a second storage site, but finding one could take decades.

<https://inews.co.uk/news/nuclear-power-plant-plans-uk-could-run-out-room-radioactive-waste-1563015>

Claire Corkhill: "By 2050 up to 24 GW of electricity will come from nuclear energy". The new UK energy strategy is completely unrealistic - that many GW is just not

*economically feasible. If it were, I'd be concerned about the implications for radioactive waste disposal."*

@clairecorkhill 7th April 2022

<https://twitter.com/clairecorkhill/status/1511980277601550344>

Waste from the Winfrith site has been transferred to the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) following a period of storage at Harwell which allowed the waste to decay from Intermediate Level Waste to Low Level Waste categorisation. These will now be placed into vaults for disposal at LLWR.

#### 5b. **Geological Disposal Facility**

**Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire:** The campaign group GOTEK have been conducting a series of public consultations in local venues across the villages surrounding the proposed GDF site and are getting good feedback from residents opposed to the nuclear dump.

#### 6. **Nuclear Safety:**

**Four nuclear safety incidents reported to ministers in 2021:** Four nuclear safety incidents were reported to UK Government ministers due to their severity last year, the Independent revealed, can reveal, with experts raising fears over the declining number of inspections.

In the most serious safety breach, on 22 July, the Heysham One nuclear power station in Lancashire had a complete loss of 400kV power after a National Grid transformer failed. Both reactors tripped automatically and were cooled and safely shut down, according to an Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) report.

On 11 September, a package of radioactive materials was found in the street by a member of the public after being lost in transit between two London hospitals. The ONR said there was no risk to the public or the environment.

Two incidents at Sellafield in Cumbria also met ministerial reporting criteria under nuclear safety laws.

An analysis of reports from the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) revealed the four incidents in 2021, which met ministerial reporting criteria under nuclear safety laws. The overall number of Incident Notification Forms documenting security issues at UK nuclear facilities was 368 in the first 10 months of last year. This is 72 per cent higher than the 214 submitted in 2018. However, the number of nuclear security inspections carried out by the ONR appears to have fallen. Data shows there were 136 inspections up to 17 December 2021, compared with 169 in 2019.

The Heysham One incident, which was stood down after 16 hours, was rated as level 2 – the third lowest on the International Nuclear Event Scale, which ranges from zero to seven. The report said there were “no radiological consequences”.

[https://inews.co.uk/news/uk-nuclear-safety-incidents-heysham-sellafield-office-nuclear-regulation-1552075?fbclid=IwAR3WtE5Jt3kVFL2w8xeRW71VAYUudb\\_nnwjXh0sLYLZ1\\_bNXJ\\_SXZyiGXxk](https://inews.co.uk/news/uk-nuclear-safety-incidents-heysham-sellafield-office-nuclear-regulation-1552075?fbclid=IwAR3WtE5Jt3kVFL2w8xeRW71VAYUudb_nnwjXh0sLYLZ1_bNXJ_SXZyiGXxk)

**The Office for Nuclear Regulation issues enforcement letters over 'near misses':**

Dounreay's operators are being taken to task over several "near miss" industrial mishaps. The incidents between April and November last year involved problems during crane-lifting operations at the Caithness site. They have resulted in Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd and site contractor Graham receiving enforcement letters from the ONR. The regulator has warned that the breaches of compliance will lead to stronger action if improvements are not made. They included problems with a lifting operation at the shielded intermediate waste store being built next to the site's cementation plant.

<https://www.johnogroat-journal.co.uk/news/office-for-nuclear-regulation-issues-enforcement-letters-ove-271235/>

**'Unsettling and Unacceptable' Negligence Uncovered at Diablo Canyon Plant:**

The US Office of the Inspector General issued a damning report on a significant failure by nuclear safety inspectors charged with ensuring the safe operation of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in Avila Beach in southern San Luis Obispo County, California that led to one of the plant's two reactors being shut down for eight days in July 2020.

<https://www.independent.com/2022/03/29/unsettling-and-unacceptable-negligence-uncovered-at-diablo-canyon/>

Interestingly two female managerial staff at Diablo Canyon were the founders of the pro-nuclear group 'Mothers for Nuclear', which now has a UK-offshoot which includes Zion Lights, a former activist in Extinction Rebellion who left that organization after a dispute involving her advocacy of nuclear power as a 'green' energy source.

**7 Political:**

**British Energy Security Strategy:** Here then is some of the highline details with thanks to Sean Morris. The whole document can be sourced at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/british-energy-security-strategy>

**Immediate support on energy bills**

A £9.1 billion package of support including:

- £150 non-repayable Council Tax rebate for the majority of households in April 2022.
- £200 reduction in energy bills from October 2022 for all households in Great Britain through the Energy Bills Support Scheme, to be recovered through energy bills and will spread the cost of the energy price shock over 5 years from 2023.
- The Warm Home Discount will increase to £150 in October and extend its coverage to assist 3 million people.
- The government is investing a further £500 million in a Household Support Fund for local authorities to use in supporting the most vulnerable with food and utility bills.

**Energy efficiency**

By 2025, around 700,000 homes will be upgraded, and by 2050 all our buildings will be energy efficient with low carbon heating.

Existing funding and other measures include:

- £1.8 billion targeted at low-income households through the Home Upgrade Grant and the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. This builds on more than £1.2 billion we have already invested this Parliament to support low-income households to install energy efficiency measures. Combined, this funding will improve up to 500,000 homes.
- £1.4 billion to upgrade public sector buildings. This brings capital spending on buildings decarbonization over the lifetime of Parliament to £6.6 billion.
- Expanding the Energy Company Obligation to £1 billion per year from 2022 to 2026, helping 133,000 low-income households annually to improve their energy efficiency.
- Setting a 2035 date by which we intend to phase out the sale of new and replacement gas boilers.
- Introducing a package of measures to increase deployment of heat pumps to 600,000 installations per year by 2028 and expanding heat networks through the Green Heat Networks Fund and designating heat network zones.
- Zero-rating VAT for the next 5 years on the installation of energy saving materials, including insulation and low carbon heating, saving between £1,000 to £2,000 on the cost of an air source heat pump.
- Launching the £450 million Boiler Upgrade Scheme this month.
- The Government will publish proposals on making heat pumps cheaper later this year, considering overall system impacts and limiting the impact on bills, particularly for low-income consumers.
- The Government are looking to facilitate low-cost finance from retail lenders to drive investment in energy efficiency measures. There are currently around 40 green mortgage products available to consumers wanting to make green home improvements.
- Run a Heat Pump Investment Accelerator Competition in 2022 worth up to £30 million to make British heat pumps, which reduce demand for gas.

No specific new funding is announced for energy efficiency measure in this Energy Security Strategy.

### **Oil and gas**

Currently around half of UK demand for gas is met through domestic supplies. In meeting net zero by 2050 the UK may still use a quarter of the gas that we use now. So, to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels, “we must fully utilise our great North Sea reserve, use the empty caverns for CO<sub>2</sub> Storage, bring through hydrogen to use as an alternative to natural gas and use our offshore expertise to support our offshore wind sector”. As a result of our plans, the North Sea will still be a foundation of our energy security, but we will have reduced our gas consumption by over 40% by 2030.

Existing gas and oil will be developed to increase more domestic reserves. The UK remains ‘open-minded’ about our onshore reserves and have asked the BGS to look into shale gas.

A ‘new lease of life’ for the North Sea in low-carbon technologies:

- A £1 billion commitment to develop 4 Carbon Capture Underground Site clusters by 2030.
- The industrial clusters will be the starting point for a new carbon capture industry with a sizeable export potential.

## **Renewables**

### **a) Offshore wind**

The ambition is to deliver up to 50GW by 2030, including up to 5GW of innovative floating wind.

The government will seek to make it easier and faster to develop offshore wind farms in the North Sea, Irish Sea and Celtic Sea.

### **b) Onshore wind**

“Onshore wind is one of the cheapest forms of renewable power. The UK already has over 14GW of onshore wind, with a strong pipeline of future projects in Scotland. We will improve national network infrastructure and, in England, support a number of new projects with strong local backing.”

The government is serious about delivering cheaper, cleaner, more secure power, so it is important to consider all options. That is why it included onshore wind in the latest Contracts for Difference auction round and will include it in future rounds.

In England, plans will prioritise putting local communities in control. The government will not introduce wholesale changes to current planning regulations for onshore wind but will consult this year on developing local partnerships for a limited number of supportive communities who wish to host new onshore wind infrastructure in return for benefits, including lower energy bills.

There is no specific target for onshore wind.

### **c) Solar and other technologies**

There is currently 14GW of solar capacity in the UK split between large scale projects to smaller scale rooftop solar. The cost of solar has fallen by around 85% over the past decade, and panels can be installed in just one day on a domestic roof. The government expects a five-fold increase in deployment by 2035.

For ground-mounted solar, the government will consult on amending planning rules to strengthen policy in favour of development on non-protected land, while ensuring communities continue to have a say and environmental protections remain in place.

Government will continue to support the effective use of land by encouraging large scale projects to locate on previously developed, or lower value land, where possible, and ensure projects are designed to avoid, mitigate, and where necessary, compensate for the impacts of using greenfield sites.

For rooftop solar, the government will seek to bring down bills and increase jobs by radically simplifying planning processes with a consultation on relevant permitted development rights and will consider the best way to make use of public sector rooftops.

“As an island nation surrounded by water, we will also aggressively explore renewable opportunities afforded by our geography and geology, including tidal and geothermal.”

## **Nuclear**

The government’s aim is to have 25% of electricity in 2050, 24GW deriving from existing and new nuclear power.

This will involve taking one large new nuclear reactor project (Sizewell) to this Parliament, and two more large (possibly Wylfa) / or small modular reactors in the next Parliament.

Up to 8 reactors to be delivered by 2050.

Will establish a 'Great British Nuclear' body to help deliver these projects.

### **Hydrogen**

The government will double the ambition for hydrogen production to up to 10GW by 2030, with at least half of this from electrolytic hydrogen.

This will include:

- aiming to run annual allocation rounds for electrolytic hydrogen, moving to price competitive allocation by 2025 as soon as legislation and market conditions allow, so that up to 1GW of electrolytic hydrogen is in construction or operational by 2025.
- Designing, by 2025, new business models for hydrogen transport and storage infrastructure, which will be essential to grow the hydrogen economy.
- Setting up a hydrogen certification scheme by 2025, to demonstrate high-grade British hydrogen for export purposes.

### **Networks, storage and flexibility**

"Within this decade, our modern system will prioritise 2 key features: anticipating need because planning ahead minimises cost and public disruption; and hyper-flexibility in matching supply and demand so that minimal energy is wasted. This more efficient, locally responsive system could bring down costs by up to £10 billion a year by 2050."

We will ensure lower total costs by offering clear signals on future need:

- Establishing the Future System Operator as soon as practicable to drive our overall transition and oversee the UK energy system. This will nationalise part of the National Grid.
- Publishing a strategic framework this year with Ofgem for how networks will deliver net zero.
- Appointing an Electricity Networks Commissioner to advise government on policies and regulatory changes to accelerate progress on network infrastructure.
- Setting out a blueprint for the whole system by the end of 2022 in the Holistic Network Design (HND) and Centralised Strategic Network Plan (CSNP).
- Ensuring Ofgem expedites its approvals process to build networks in anticipation of major new sources of generation and demand.
- Reducing timelines for delivering strategic onshore transmission network infrastructure by around three years.
- Ensuring that local communities can benefit from development of onshore infrastructure in their area, by consulting on community benefit options.

### **International delivery**

To reduce global reliance on Russian fossil fuels, the UK is:

- Committing to phase out the use of Russian oil and coal by the end of 2022, and end imports of Russian liquefied natural gas as soon as possible thereafter.

- Building on partnerships with non-Russian OPEC countries, and the US, to promote market stability through the availability of alternative supplies of oil and gas.
- Host the first UK-Qatar Strategic Energy Dialogue in May to further deepen our existing energy collaboration.
- Working closely with the US on gas, particularly on how we can leverage UK LNG infrastructure to support European supply.
- Driving our work with other European countries for more efficient trading across our electricity interconnectors, lowering costs for UK and EU consumers.

**Too late and too slow, IPCC issue dire warning world not moving fast enough on global warming:** The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report published 4 April showed that whilst growth in global emissions has slowed over the past decade, much more needs to be done, most specifically halving global emissions by 2030, to keep the goal of a 1.5C temperature rise in reach and avoid the worst impacts of global warming.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/>

**A spark of hope: Power for people campaign meets energy minister:** In early April, four of the Local Electricity Bill's MP co-sponsors - David Johnston, Hilary Benn, Wera Hobhouse and Selaine Saxby - and Steve Shaw, Co-ordinator and Founder of Power for People, attended the meeting with the Energy Minister, Greg Hands MP, and four of his Whitehall officials.

The meeting led to a significant development. The Minister instructed his officials to work with the campaign on finding agreement on how to implement the changes that the Bill calls for. Officials have asked for further details on the Bill, which we are now preparing with energy regulations experts.

## **8. Commercial, Regulatory and Statutory:**

- 8a. EDF: Full nationalisation may be possible:** France is considering restructuring plans for debt-laden power firm EDF (EDF.PA) that include full nationalisation followed by the sale of its renewables business to focus on nuclear energy, BFM Business reported, citing unidentified sources. EDF is considering selling its renewables business to finance more new nuclear plants.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/frances-edf-could-sell-renewables-focus-nuclear-bfm-2022-04-13/>

**More corrosion in EDF plants:** Corrosion was found on key piping on four nuclear reactors (Chinon-3, Cattenom-3, Flamanville-2, and Golfech-1) during recent checks, taking the number of affected units at its French fleet of atomic generators to nine. The state-controlled utility previously said its nuclear output will fall to the lowest in more than three decades this year and hardly rebound next year due to the reactor works.

<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/edf-finds-signs-of-corrosion-on-four-more-reactors-during-checks-1.1753951>

<https://www.montelnews.com/news/1313964/edf-finds-indications-of-possible-corrosion-on-4-reactors->

Members of the Nuclear Consult google group have indicated that between 20-24 reactors in France are out of commission.

**8b. NDA (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority):**

The NDA has now published its final business plan for 2022-25 and its response to commits submitted to the consultation on the draft:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1062302/Business\\_Plan\\_2022-2025\\_220322.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1062302/Business_Plan_2022-2025_220322.pdf)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/nuclear-decommissioning-authority-draft-business-plan-2022-to-2025-for-consultation/public-feedback/our-findings-from-the-consultation-responses>

The NFLA was one of the respondents to the consultation and some elements of our submission can be viewed here:

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/nfla-seeks-jobs-for-local-community-on-nuclear-decommissioning-work/>

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/nfla-endorses-call-for-real-green-energy-on-former-nuclear-sites/>

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/swedish-drones-shine-light-on-potential-threat-to-nuclear-plants-say-nfla/>

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/nfla-demands-deadly-plutonium-stockpile-be-placed-out-of-use/>

**NDA in line for Vulcan clean-up work:** The NDA has for the past year run the one-time civil fast reactor complex at Dounreay in Caithness, Scotland after winding up the contract of a private consortium.

Now it is in the frame to take over the management of the decontamination and dismantling of the neighbouring long-time nuclear submarine support base at Vulcan, after a rethink by the Ministry of Defence which had favoured putting the work out to tender.

Commander Ian Walker, who heads the small Royal Navy presence at Vulcan, said "We have identified that the previously discounted option of the transfer of responsibility for the decommissioning of Vulcan from the MoD to NDA is now a credible option and is worthy of reassessment".

<https://www.johnogroat-journal.co.uk/news/nda-in-line-to-take-on-vulcan-decommissioning-role-at-dounre-269911/>

**8b. ONR (Office of Nuclear Regulation):**

**Off the naughty step: two nuclear sites taken out of special measures:** Due to 'significant and sustained safety improvements' at the Atomic Weapons Establishment's (AWE) Burghfield site in Berkshire and EDF's Dungeness B site in Kent, the ONR has now taken them out of enhanced attention following several years of increased focus and they have now returned to routine regulatory attention.

<https://news.onr.org.uk/2022/04/enhanced-to-routine-regulatory-attention/>

**9. *Renewable technologies and climate emergency:***

**A third of Britons may plump for heat pumps:** A third of Britons are now considering installing a heat pump, according to a new survey from the Energy & Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU). Recent surging gas prices have made it cheaper to run a heat pump than a gas boiler in the UK, saving around £260 a year.

From 2 April, grants of £5,000 will be available through the Boiler Upgrade Scheme to support people switching to electric heat pumps. The cut in VAT for energy efficiency products, including heat pumps, announced in the Spring Statement could cut between £1,200-£2,000 off the average price of installation. The VAT cut and the grant mean heat pumps are as cheap as a boiler to purchase, whilst being cheaper to run.

<https://www.current-news.co.uk/news/a-third-of-britons-considering-switch-to-a-heat-pumps-to-increase-security-from-russian-gas>

**Government support soars for low-emission aircraft:** The Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) Programme to receive a record £685 million of government funding over the next 3 years, an increase of more than 50%. With industry funding there will be over £1 billion in funding to develop zero-carbon and ultra-low-emission aircraft technology. ATI programmes have already secured more than 81,000 jobs in the past decade. Previous projects supported have included ZeroAvia's 6-seat hydrogen-electric aircraft, which is the largest such aircraft in the world, as well as Rolls-Royce's development of UltraFan®, the largest, most efficient aircraft engine ever.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-aerospace-tech-to-receive-record-government-funding>

**Ministerial approval of large solar park near Scunthorpe:** In early April, the Business Secretary approved the development of the Little Crow solar park and battery storage project to be situated near Scunthorpe. The solar park will have an installed capacity of 150 MW, whilst there will be accompanying battery storage of 90 MW.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN010101/EN010101-000888-Decision%20Letter%20-%20Little%20Crow%20Solar%20Park.pdf>

**Ministerial approval of East Anglia One and Two Windfarms:** The Business Secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng, has given development consent to the controversial EA1N and EA2 offshore windfarms being built by Scottish Power Renewables off the coast of Suffolk with an onshore substation at Friston (see March briefing). This is expected to add nearly 1.5GW of clean energy capacity to the UK grid. Despite opposition from some locals (see March briefing), the Secretary of State concluded there was a "strong case" for both offshore farms to proceed.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/east-anglia-one-north-offshore-windfarm/>

<https://www.businessgreen.com/news/4047675/scottishpower-secures-planning-approval-giant-offshore-wind-projects>

**Moray East windfarm fully charged:** Moray East, also known as Moray Offshore Windfarm, has achieved its full contracted power output of 900 MW to the UK

National Transmission Grid following the completion of works recently. The windfarm has produced electricity throughout the construction period between June 2021 and March of this year - producing enough power to meet the electricity needs of all households in Aberdeen and Edinburgh in the process. Enough power was left over to cover most households in Moray as well.

<https://www.northern-scot.co.uk/news/moray-east-windfarm-now-fully-operational-271238/>

**Every little helps:** Tesco has now installed electric vehicle (EV) charge points at more than 500 stores across the UK, in partnership with charging company Pod Point and auto giant Volkswagen. More than 1,000 chargers have now been installed in Tesco supermarket car parks, of which 100 provide rapid charging to customers.

<https://www.businessgreen.com/news/4047565/tesco-expands-uk-largest-free-ev-charging-network-500-sites>

The number of electric vehicles registered in the UK in March 2022 was the highest on record for a single month. Nearly 40,000 new electric vehicles were registered in the UK last month, an increase of nearly 80 per cent compared to March last year, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. The number of registrations was higher last month than during the entirety of 2019, according to the group.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/uk-electric-car-sales-record-high-b2051135.html>

**More plans for hydrogen:** Plans to develop a hydrogen neighbourhood by 2023 and a hydrogen village by 2025 were first floated by the UK Government in November 2020, through the Ten-Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. After consulting on proposals for these trials, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) announced on 11 April that it will proceed with the village trial in 2023, when a location has been agreed.

In related news, transport and energy firm First Hydrogen has identified four industrial sites where it would like to bring green hydrogen generation infrastructure online. The sites are near Liverpool, near Manchester, in Greater London and on the Thames Estuary. The latter would be the largest of the four sites.

<https://www.edie.net/developer-unveils-plans-for-four-uk-green-hydrogen-production-sites-as-government-firms-up-hydrogen-village-plans/>

The government has launched a £375 million support package for nuclear, hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS). Hydrogen is set to receive the biggest chunk of this funding to support the increased target of up to 10GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030, as set out in the British Energy Security Strategy. The new package includes £240 million to support the production of hydrogen, which will be available by the end of 2022 through the Net Zero Hydrogen Fund. A further £100 million for electrolytic projects will be supported through the Hydrogen Business Model, helping to cover the difference between the strike price and the sale price of hydrogen, with this set to launch in the summer.

<https://www.current-news.co.uk/news/government-announces-375m-funding-for-nuclear-hydrogen-and-ccus>

**Seven new wind farms for Ireland:** Seven large offshore wind farms with capacity to power three million homes are set to be fast-tracked from this year under a new maritime regulation regime.

As part of a multibillion euro investment programme, Environment Minister Eamon Ryan has invited applications from developers of six wind farms proposed for the Irish Sea and one off the west coast. Under new powers, the first tranche of projects using fixed turbines will be able to obtain consents from the Minister, enabling them to go directly to An Bord Pleanála for consideration. They are expected to begin generating three GW from 2027

The Irish Sea projects are Oriel Wind Park off Co Louth; two wind farms proposed by RWE at Bray and Kish Banks off Co Dublin, two wind farms due to be built by Codling Wind Park off Co Wicklow and a development by North Irish Sea Array Ltd off Co Meath and north Dublin. The West of Ireland wind farm is planned by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta off Connemara, Co Galway.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/environment/seven-offshore-wind-farms-could-begin-operating-from-2027-under-fast-track-plan-1.4832636>

**Largest on-shore wind turbine funded in Bristol:** A community group in one of the poorest parts of Bristol has met its funding target to build the tallest wind turbine in England, despite a lack of any central government funding for locally owned wind power generation. The group of residents from Lawrence Weston, a deprived housing estate on the edge of the West Country city, have secured £4m, and expect to begin groundworks for the turbine, which measures 150 metres from its base to the tip of its blade, in June. The wind turbine, which has a maximum capacity of 4.2MW, will sell energy to the grid. The group estimates it will bring in at least £100,000 a year.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/apr/16/bristol-community-secures-funding-to-build-tallest-wind-turbine-in-england>

**30 new large solar projects on track for UK:** More than 30 large solar projects in the UK with a combined capacity of more than 3 gigawatts, enough to power hundreds of thousands of homes, have planning permission and are due to be built soon, according to new research by AMA Research has found. One to watch is Cleve Hill solar farm in Kent, where construction is due to start in the next few months.

[https://www.amaresearch.co.uk/report/utility-scale-solar-farms-market-report-uk-2022/?utm\\_source=nshak&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=nshak\\_3/31/2022\\_SUB](https://www.amaresearch.co.uk/report/utility-scale-solar-farms-market-report-uk-2022/?utm_source=nshak&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nshak_3/31/2022_SUB) (Link to access payable report)

**Study says Conwy and Tidal lagoon could create 22,000 jobs:** A £7 billion tidal lagoon between Prestatyn and Llandudno could create 22,000 North Wales jobs, generating enough electricity to power every home in Wales, says head of North Wales Tidal Energy Henry Dixon.

Wrexham's Glyndwr University has carried out an economic impact assessment, which predicts the lagoon generating an additional 22,000 jobs.

The figure includes the 500 jobs created during the five-year planning stage, the 6,000 or 7,000 at the point of construction, and the many thousands of opportunities predicted to spring up around the lagoon – such as water sports businesses, tourist centres, and even new mussel farms harvested on the rock walls.

Whilst the total cost of the project is around £7 billion, North Wales Tidal Energy needs around £50m to get the project going, largely for environmental impact assessments. Once complete, it is estimated the tidal lagoon could generate around £500m a year for the next 120 years.

<https://north.wales/news/conwy/conwy-and-tidal-lagoon-could-create-22000-jobs>

**Kent County Council acquires solar farm:** A 94-acre solar farm in North Somerset has been acquired by Kent County Council and LASER Energy in a bid to massively reduce carbon emissions while saving energy costs for the local authority. The Bowerhouse II Solar Farm, which has recently been built by Ethical Power, has the capacity for 39,312 solar panels and will provide 22,000 megawatt hours of green electricity to the grid a year.

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/south-east/kent-county-council-buys-north-somerset-solar-farm>

**Scottish solar generation could exceed hydro:** Proposed developments capable of producing some 687 megawatts (MW) of electricity are already in the Scottish planning system, Solar Energy Scotland has revealed, with projects with a further 1388 MW of capacity at other stages of development. If all these are approved and go ahead, existing capacity means that Scotland could benefit from more than 2.5 GW of solar capacity, Solar Energy Scotland said – more than the capacity of Scotland’s hydropower plants.

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/20033058.scotlands-renewable-industry-leaders-call-solar-boom/>

**Octopus acquires heat pump manufacturer:** Octopus Energy has acquired heat pump manufacturer Renewable Energy Devices (RED). It will initially take a controlling interest in the firm based in Craigavon in Northern Ireland, ahead of full acquisition by the end of the year. The multi-million pound partnership will see RED’s existing factory being significantly expanded, with 100 more engineering jobs created by 2024. The factory will be able to produce over 1,000 heat pumps a month by the end of 2022.

<https://www.current-news.co.uk/news/octopus-energy-acquires-heat-pump-manufacturer-red-in-move-to-create-model-t-moment-for-sector>

Octopus will incorporate its “smart grid” technology into its heat pumps to “enable the pumps to make the most of spare capacity on the electricity grid and distribution networks, and reduce the load at peak times - and lower running costs for customers.” Octopus added that the technology could reduce the running costs of a heat pump by as much as 70%.

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/octopus-energy-signs-uk-heat-23676802>

**Wind and Solar exceed 10 percent of world’s electricity production:** The share of wind and solar in the world’s electricity production has exceeded 10 per cent for the first time, as China and Japan joined some 50 different countries to exceed that level in 2021.

Ireland is one of eight countries in the world that generates more than 30 per cent of its electricity from wind and solar.

The new assessment, from the UK-based Ember, notes that wind and solar are the fastest growing sources of electricity, and if maintained at current rates could deliver enough capacity to help cap average global warming at around 1.5°C.

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/wind-and-solar-reach-10-per-cent-of-global-electricity-production-for-first-time/>

**Lithium may also be extracted with heat from geothermal in Cornwall:** lithium can be derived from the hot water in certain geothermal bores in Cornwall. A company called Cornish Lithium aims to extract the metal from geothermal water beneath Redruth, as well as digging it out of the ground at a conventional mine near St Austell.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/geothermal-is-the-missing-link-in-energy-strategy-hzhdbqwzv>

**Hydrogen hub to be developed in Galway:** Ireland's first 'hydrogen valley' will be developed in Galway. The Galway Hydrogen Hub (GH2) will be developed by a consortium comprised of NUI Galway, the Port of Galway, CIÉ Group and Bus Éireann, Aran Islands Ferries, Lasta Mara Teo, Aer Arann Islands, and SSE Renewables. Plans would see the consortium intention develop an initial flagship demonstrator project producing green hydrogen at Galway Harbour.

<https://www.energyvoice.com/renewables-energy-transition/403514/galway-hub-to-lead-irelands-first-hydrogen-valley/>

#### **10. *Mayors for Peace and nuclear disarmament:***

**40 years of nuclear-free Wales exhibition now on tour:** The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Wales is marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nuclear Free Wales Declaration with an exhibition touring Wales.

Wales was declared 'nuclear free' on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1982 after all eight local authorities passed resolutions declaring themselves 'nuclear-free zones'.

The exhibition will visit locations in all eight of the County Councils that existed in 1982, with the first stop being at Glyndwr University in Wrexham.

The NFLA hopes to hold an event in conjunction with Cymru CND and the exhibition later this year.

**Below:** Carolyn Thomas, the Flintshire-based Member of the Senedd for North Wales, met Cymru CND activists at the exhibition at Glyndwr University.



<https://www.deeside.com/exhibition-to-mark-40-years-since-the-nuclear-free-wales-declaration-visits-wrexham/>

**Nuclear Warhead Numbers on the rise:** The nine nuclear-armed states had a combined arsenal of 12,705 nuclear warheads at the beginning of 2022. Of these, an estimated 9,440 warheads – with a collective yield equivalent to approximately 138,000 Hiroshima-bombs – constituted usable stockpiles, available for use by the nuclear armed states on their missiles, aircraft, submarines and ships. The number of nuclear warheads in usable stockpiles is now on the rise, warns the watchdog Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor in its latest annual report.

<https://banmonitor.org/>

**US Nuclear Weapons may return to Lakenheath:** This month, it was reported that the UK was added to a US Department of Defense list of NATO nuclear weapon storage locations in Europe earmarked for upgrade in readiness for the reception of nuclear weapons. The most likely location is the US airbase at RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk.

RAF Lakenheath hosted US nuclear weapons for more than five decades, with the first arriving in September 1954. By the time of their removal in 2008, the site had 33 underground storage vaults and stored around 110 B61 gravity bombs that could be dropped from F-15E warplanes based there.

Lakenheath received the latest nuclear- capable fighter – the F-35A – in December 2021 and a total of 24 F-35As are expected to be based there. Training with the latest B61-12 guided nuclear bomb will commence within the year.

It is unclear if the bombs have returned, but if allowed, the UK will become the sixth European NATO member to host US nuclear weapons. CND is holding a national demonstration at Lakenheath on 21<sup>st</sup> May (see below)



**Above:** ceremony at Lakenheath. Image US Air Force. Captions Hans Kristiansen, Federation of American Scientists.

<https://cnduk.org/cnd-condemns-return-of-us-nukes-to-britain/>

**Keighley Mayor signs council to commit to support treaty ban:** On 11<sup>th</sup> April, the Mayor of Keighley Town Council, Councillor Julie Adams, was very happy to sign in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in the presence of renowned local peace campaigner Sylvia Boyes. The Council has passed a resolution favouring the UK Government signing the TPNW. It will be forwarded to the government by the Keighley Town Clerk.



**11. Forthcoming events with links:**

**Nuclear power: the jobs myth – CND webinar**

9 May @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Join this online event organised by CND's trade union advisory group.

New nuclear is being sold as a panacea for energy security and meeting decarbonisation targets.

This webinar will look at the myth of jobs in the nuclear sector, its links between civilian and defence jobs, and explain why waiting for the government to deliver on these will see other important work needed to decarbonise the economy neglected. It will explore the alternative for workers and the hype around small modular reactors.

With guest speakers Sam Mason, policy Officer at PCS trade covering sustainability and climate change, representing her union on the global Trade Unions for Energy Democracy initiative; and Professor M. V Ramana, a leading world expert on SMNRs, a physicist by training, now Professor and Simons Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security at the University of British Columbia. Chaired by Daniel Blaney, CND Vice-Chair.

**You can pre-register to participate via this link**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Lr2In2HZQkagvIaMkDwVA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Lr2In2HZQkagvIaMkDwVA)

**SIZEWELL C PROTEST MARCH, 15 MAY**

Organised by Stop Sizewell C and Together Against Sizewell C.

**Headlines:** Join a two-mile protest march from Leiston to Sizewell beach on Sunday 15 May, 10 days ahead of the planning decision. This event is jointly organised by Stop Sizewell C and Together Against Sizewell C.

**March;** gather from 9.30am in Victory Road Recreation Ground, Leiston. We will move off by 10am.

**Rally:** Sizewell Beach from 11.15am -12 noon. Speakers include Adrian Ramsay, Green Party co leader.

**Key Details:**

- Marchers should gather at 9.30am in Victory Road Recreation Ground, Leiston, at the north-eastern end near the footbridge over Park Hill. We will move off by 10am.
- The march will process along Main Street, past the Library, and the High Street, turning left along Sizewell Road/St George's Avenue to Lover's Lane and Sizewell Gap. The distance is a little over 2 miles which is expected to take just over an hour.
- There will be a rally at Sizewell Beach from 11.15am to 12 noon approx.

## **CND National Demonstration against US Nukes**

CND is calling on all supporters to mobilise for a national demonstration at RAF Lakenheath to say no to US nukes!

- Saturday, May 21st – assemble at 1pm outside RAF Lakenheath, Brandon Road, Suffolk, IP27 9BU.
- Coaches will be arranged from across the country, and transport will be available from Norwich rail station.

<https://cnduk.org/stop-us-nukes-coming-to-lakenheath/>

Richard Outram, NFLA Secretary

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27-4-22