# Fukushima 5, Chernobyl 30 – IPPNW Congress

## UK new nuclear / energy debate

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UK & Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities

**#LetHinkleyGo???** 



#### Contents

- Overview of the NFLA 35 years young
- UK new nuclear debate
  - issues at Hinkley Point
  - prospects for other sites
  - small nuclear reactors
- A new local energy revolution?
- UK politics and energy obstacles or opportunities?
- Possible ways forward





#### Who are the NFLA?

- Originated in 1980 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Over 50 members in 4 NFLA National Forums
- Campaigns and researches on all aspects of nuclear policy (nuclear power & weapons)
- Principal local government voice on nuclear issues in UK & Ireland (reps from 12 political parties)
- Strong interaction with UK, Irish and devolved governments, regulators & NGOs
- http://www.nuclearpolicy.info









## Why our members are in the NFLA



**Statement of intent** 



Radioactive waste legacy



60+ years of nuclear – no community untouched / new build



**Health concerns** 



Nuclear transport by road / rail / sea



Public cost -£84bn legacy / £18bn per new reactor / £35bn -£95bn Trident

#### The aims of the NFLA?

- identify local government and community interests affected by national nuclear policy
- development open up decision making and increasing public accountability of the secretive nuclear industry
- advise on practical steps to minimise nuclear hazards and safeguard public health and safety
- make the case against new nuclear build and deep geological disposal of radioactive waste

- support developments of the alternatives to nuclear power
- renewables, energy efficiency, LA energy, community energy



#### How does NFLA achieve its aims?

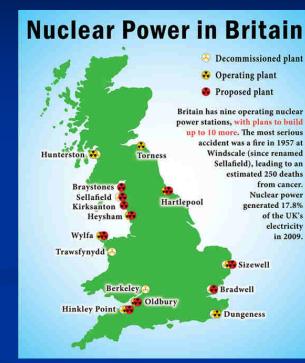
- Direct involvement with Government and nuclear industry stakeholder events
   e.g. DECC NGO Forum Scottish Government Radioactive Waste Board, MOD Submarine Advisory Group, NDA Stakeholder Dialogue, ONR NGO Forum
- Direct involvement & interaction with SCORRS & NuLEAF (Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances and English & Welsh Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum)

- Direct involvement in international nuclear bodies e.g. partnerships with the Mayors for Peace, KIMO International and Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe (CNFE)
- Produce NFLA Policy Briefings, Newsletters, Conferences, Media Releases, Seminars and business meetings for NFLA members



#### New nuclear build in the UK

- 8 new sites put forward by UK Government
- New nuclear part of UK 'low carbon' mix for climate change commitment & provide up to 30% of UK electricity
- Hinkley Point EDF's first site for EPR
  - planning permission 🗸
  - environmental permits 🗸
  - generic design permits 🗸
  - investment?
- Sizewell / Bradwell Chinese involvement
- Wylfa / Oldbury Hitachi led (ABWR)
- Sellafield Moorside Toshiba / Engie (AP1000)





## Hinkley – problems and delays



- UK Government 'strike price' of £95kwH agreed with EC
- China agreed to take on 30% investment for Hinkley
- Still £18 bn cost for EDF to find for its 2 new reactors
- Key issues:
  - Areva bankruptcy forcing expensive merger
  - Safety issues with Flamanville / Olkiluoto reactors
  - Legal challenge by Austria / Luxembourg
  - Split in EU board (shareholders / unions)



## Why Hinkley is so important

- Political embarrassment for UK Government
- EDF's key role in existing UK nuclear capacity
- Viability of the EPR for global orders
- Investment decision postponed 10 times over past 2.5 years
- Due in late 2017, now when?
- If finance approved, perhaps late 2020s when completed







## Prospects at other new nuclear sites



**WYLFA NEWYDD** 



SELLAFIELD MOORSIDE

- China investment enter market with its own design for Bradwell – needs Hinkley to work
- Wylfa design approval expected 2017
- Hitachi CEO 'spooked' by Hinkley issues
- Moorside design approval expected 2018
- Toshiba similar financial issues to EDF
- Engie wants to get into decentralised energy

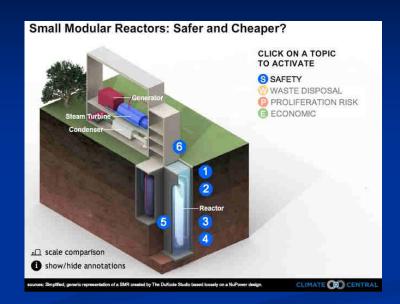




#### **Small modular reactors**

- A clear sign of concern that large reactors may not be realised
- £250m research into SMRs
- Site in Trawnsfyndd, North Wales
- Economies of scale no market and no cheap design
- NFLA report:

http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/docs/nuclearmonitor/NFLA\_New\_Nuclear\_Monitor\_No37.pdf



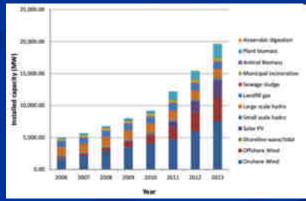


#### Renewable alternatives to nuclear?

#### Good news in the UK:

- Large take up of solar, onshore & offshore wind, district heating, CHP
- Over 15% electricity by 2013 and has reached over 25% at times in 2015
- -Figures even better in Scotland
- Bad news in the UK:
  - New UK Conservative government cut feed-in tariffs by 67%
  - Little money available for renewables due to nuclear and fracking support
  - Over 30,000 renewables jobs under threat







## **Paris commitments**

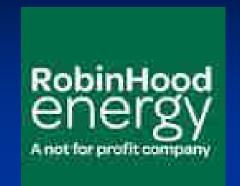
- UK should reach its 2020 low carbon targets
- 2030 targets under threat with policy drift
- 'The mix' nuclear AND renewables or is it nuclear OR renewables?
- Current UK government policy nuclear, fracking and gas preferred
- Like nuclear, renewables are at a crossroads in UK





## Local authority / community energy

- UK Councils keen to get into energy
- Promote renewables, energy efficiency and microgeneration
- Nottingham and Bristol launched energy companies in 2015
- Others will follow across the UK
- Linked to many community energy coop startups
- Germany's Energiewende an inspiration to all







#### **Conclusions**

- UK low carbon energy policy are in real flux
- Pivotal year for UK new nuclear
- Finance will remain its achilles heel
- UK renewables growth also under threat
- Political flux and trade unions important
- 2016 19 critical time to determine long-term UK energy policy
- Will UK follow the Energiewende or France's nuclear ambition?





## **UK 'Beyond Nuclear' events**







WESTMINSTER SEMINAR 17/3

NFLA SEMINAR 18/3

MAIN CONFERENCE 19/3
CAMPAIGNERS DAY 20/3



















Please register NOW!



## Thank you for listening.

Happy to take questions and encourage discussion.

