

Cllr Pat Vance
Beachmount
Putland Road
Bray
Co Wicklow
c.c. Co Wicklow Elected Members
c.c. Frank Curren, CE, WCC



Dear Cathaoirleach

Co Wicklow PPN hosted an information meeting on 10th April this year in relation UK proposals for a nuclear power facility, namely Hinkley Point C. This resulted in the PPN submitting their concerns to local, national and UK government departments. At this point in time there was little known about this development and Ireland had to fight for their right to be consulted on it.

As you are aware there is currently a Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation on the Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Plant, Anglesey, North Wales. This is much closer to us and therefore of grave concern. We understand that this was discussed at the Council meeting and the Planning SPC meeting this month.

Many of the concerns that Co Wicklow PPN raised in its last submission in relation to Hinkley still stand including:

- No meaningful risk assessment in regard to the possibility of accidents and their impact on Ireland
- The impact of Brexit in relation to safeguarding Ireland's interest
- No obvious decisions as to managing nuclear waste disposal
- Anglesey is prone to earthquakes the most recent being 26 May 2015 measuring point 3 and on 19 July 1984 measuring 5.4. Fracking is also a mitigating factor in earthquakes and a strong possibility for this area. Earthquakes could cause a nuclear "accident"
- Irelands capacity to deal with a nuclear accident

Co Wicklow PPN requests that all Wicklow County Councilors work together to take a strong stand against this development. We respectfully suggest the following:

- A group called Nuclear Free Local Authorities consists of local authorities from England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Republic. We understand that Louth council has signed up to this group and we believe that Wicklow County Council should join. We understand that they are currently working on a model response to this consultation and although this may come from a predominantly UK perspective it still may be useful to WCC
- Attracta Ui Bhroin, Facilitator Environmental Law Implementation Group at the Irish Environmental Network presented at the PPN meeting in April. She and John Sweeny, Emeritus Professor of Geography Maynooth University also presented to a special sitting of the Oireachtas Committee on Housing Planning & Local Government. WCC should invite these people to speak at the January meeting of WCC. Attracta can be contacted through the IEN on 01 878 0116, Mobile 087 291 4061 or Email: attracta@ien.ie or attractaub@gmail.com

We hope that Wicklow County Council will take these suggestions on board and we look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Howes, Resource Worker
On behalf of the Co Wicklow PPN

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