

Have your say

- Protest about EDF's plans: see: www.stophinkley.org.
- Support national actions against Hinkley C.
- Sign petitions endorsed by Stop Hinkley

Send the letter below to:

Secretary of State,
Department of Energy and
Climate Change, 3 Whitehall
Place, London SW1A 2AW
or email: correspondence@DECC.gsi.gov.uk



- Contact the mailing list to receive regular information about the campaign - contact admin@stophinkley.org.
- Join Stop Hinkley via the website:

www.stophinkley.org

- Write to:
S.H. Membership,
8 The Bartons
Yeabridge
South Petherton
TA13 5LW

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RE: Hinkley Point C and UK Energy Policy

Dear Secretary of State,

Following the Paris Climate Change Agreement, I urge you to:

- Withdraw the Government subsidies to Hinkley C. You are asking future generations to pay twice the current price of electricity for 35 years, guarantee an unproven reactor design and deal with costly toxic radioactive waste for hundreds of years.
- Commit the UK to developing energy saving strategies and promoting the renewable energy sources that are the only long term solution to providing the energy we need.

As Hinkley C cannot be built in time to 'stop the lights going out', you need to support research into the storage technology that will make electricity from renewables available 24/7.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Hinkley C: your questions answered

French company Electricite De France (EDF), with Chinese state investment, wants to build a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, Somerset. But will it be safe, economic and bring local benefits as EDF claim?

Health & safety

- Nuclear power stations risk a catastrophic accident resulting in a large release of radioactive material into the environment, like at Chernobyl and Fukushima. This makes them a prime target for a terrorist attack.

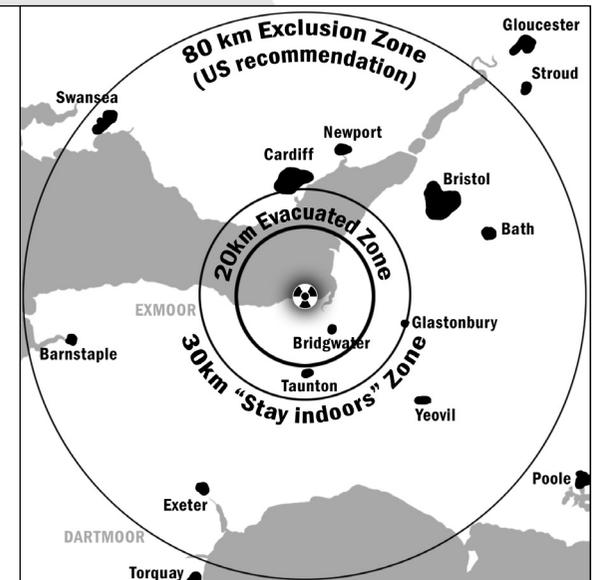
"This waste will remain dangerous for up to a million years - an outrageous legacy to leave for many generations to come."
Greenpeace

- The reactor proposed for Hinkley is a new French design with no operating track record.
- Studies show increased levels of cancer and infant deaths downwind of Hinkley and in Burnham-on-Sea.

continued overleaf...

March 2011: Nuclear disaster at Fukushima, Japan

- Earthquake and tsunami knock out cooling systems
- Reactors damaged by explosions & fuel meltdown
- 70,000 people evacuated
- Radiation exceeds safe limits
- Food, water & Pacific ocean contaminated
- Health concerns worldwide
- Many countries are abandoning nuclear and developing renewable energy



The effect of a similar accident at Hinkley Point

Radioactive waste

- Nuclear power has already left a trail of hazardous material to be cared for well beyond our lifetimes. There is still no disposal site to securely contain this waste, let alone that from any new power stations.
- The highly radioactive waste from Hinkley C would be stored on site, despite the risk of sea flooding, for at least 100 years. Even then it may be too hot to bury.

“Hinkley deal is economically insane.”

Liberum Capital,
City analysts

“UK manufacturers would find the price unaffordable.”

Jim Radcliffe,
Ineos boss

Economics

- Nuclear power has always proved more expensive than predicted.

The cost of decommissioning our existing plants is £3 billion per year and rising.

- In Finland, the first EPR reactor – the model planned for Hinkley – is predicted to be 10 years behind schedule and its cost has nearly trebled to £7 billion.

- Hinkley C will only be built with government subsidies against insurance and other

financial risks. Even then, the taxpayer could pick up the bill if it fails. This happened in 2003, when the government bailed out the company then running Hinkley Point.

- Our government has promised EDF a guaranteed price that is double our current rate for electricity, paid for 35 years and index linked.

Alternatives

- The UK can keep the lights on and reduce its carbon footprint without falling back on nuclear power. This requires a major commitment to energy saving and increasing our use of renewable energy sources.
- Solar, wind, tidal, wave and biomass can all contribute. We are already committed to generating more than a third of our electricity from renewables by 2020.
- By 2024 electricity from renewables will be cheaper than from nuclear.

Stop Hinkley says:

Hinkley will be the Sellafield nuclear waste dump of the South West. The risks of nuclear are so large and variable that it is uninsurable.

Local impact

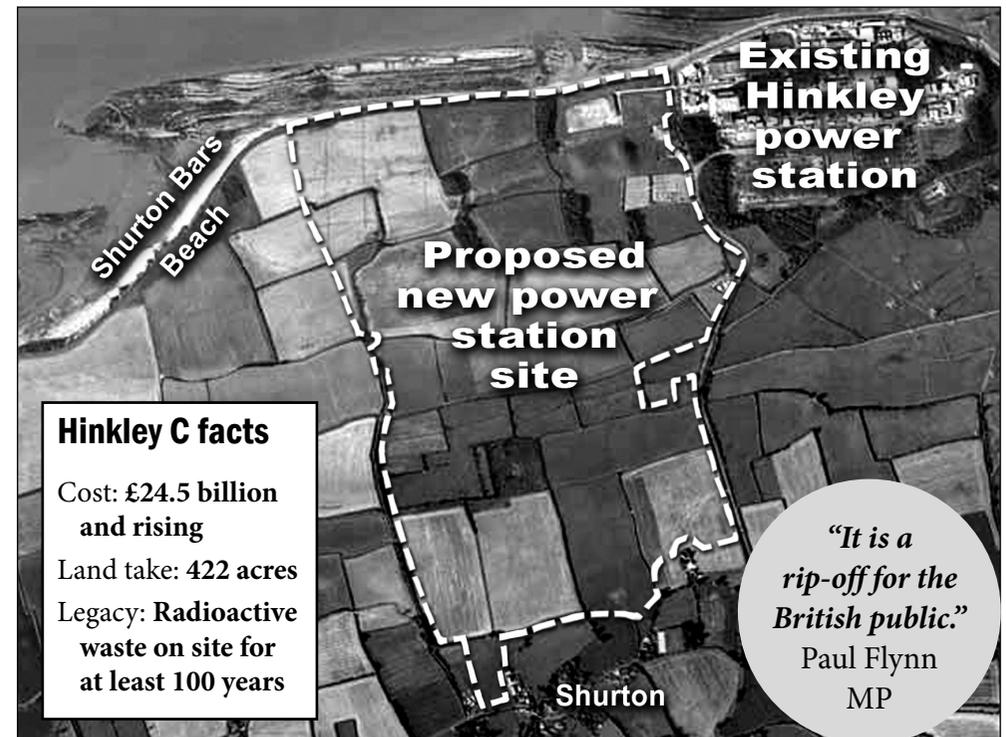
- 25,000 people will be employed on building Hinkley C, but only a fifth of the jobs are expected to go to locals.
- A project of this size will blight the area for at least ten years. Roads will be jammed with heavy vehicles, noise echo through the local villages. Over 400 acres of countryside will be sacrificed. The coastline will be scarred by a jetty to bring in aggregate.
- A new power line of the largest pylons will stretch 37 miles from Hinkley Point to Bristol.

Climate change

- Nuclear is not the answer to climate change. Vast quantities of fossil fuels are used to mine the uranium used by nuclear power. If Britain replaced all its existing reactors this could only deliver a 4% cut in carbon emissions.

Local democracy

- There was no local public inquiry into Hinkley C. The main decision has been made by an unelected national Planning Inspectorate. This is effectively a rubber stamp for government policy.



Hinkley C facts

Cost: £24.5 billion and rising
Land take: 422 acres
Legacy: Radioactive waste on site for at least 100 years

“It is a rip-off for the British public.”
Paul Flynn
MP