



Stop New Nuclear



Press Release

27 Sept 2011

Hinkley Point nuclear site targeted for mass blockade

People from all over the UK are set to descend on Hinkley Point nuclear power station next week to protest against EDF Energy's plans to build two new mega-reactors next to the existing site.

More than 100 people have already pledged to join a symbolic mass blockade at the entrance to Hinkley Point in Somerset next **Monday, October 3rd**. On **Saturday 1st October**, anti-nuclear activists will also join local residents in a march from EDF Energy's Bridgwater HQ to a rally in the town centre.

The new reactors at Hinkley would be the first of eight new nuclear power stations to be built in the UK. Spokesperson Andreas Speck said: 'This blockade is designed to warn the UK government and EDF that those who understand the real dangers of nuclear power are not prepared to stand by and allow these untried, untested reactors to be built.'

'The blockade demonstrates that people are prepared to use civil disobedience to stop the bulldozers from coming in and paving the way for a potentially lethal technology that has no place in the 21st century,' he added.

Local resident Nikki Clark said she fears for her children's future. 'There is already a lot of concern in the area about the radiation being discharged into the sea and air from the current power station at Hinkley Point.

She continued: 'We know from Chernobyl that children are particularly vulnerable to radiation in both large and small doses. Now the disaster at Fukushima has shown that even in one of the most technologically advanced, richest nations in the world, the rights of children not to have their health violated by radiation has been ignored.

We don't trust nuclear power and a lot of local people are saying enough is enough.'

In a message of support to the campaigners, leading environmentalist Jonathon Porritt said: 'The position of the UK government is extraordinary, given how the rest of the world has reacted to the Fukushima disaster. Nuclear has no part to play in the UK's energy mix.'

Porritt continued: 'We can achieve everything we need in terms of secure, low-carbon energy primarily from energy efficiency, renewables and Combined Heat and Power. So we don't need it and I believe that we can still persuade UK citizens that it's the wrong thing for us to be doing.'

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Notes to the editor:

For further information about the blockade and rally, please contact Camilla Berens from Kick Nuclear on 0781 145 1417 or Crispin Aubrey from Stop Hinkley on 01278 732921.

The blockade is supported by Stop Hinkley, Stop Nuclear Power Network UK, Kick Nuclear, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Sizewell Blockaders, Shut Down Sizewell and Trident Ploughshares.

The march and rally in Bridgwater on Saturday 1st October will run from 1-4pm.

Journalists are invited to meet key activists at the weekend protest camp from 2-3pm on Sunday 2nd October.

The blockade will begin outside the main entrance of Hinkley Point at 7am on Monday 3rd October and continue all day.