



Press Release

17th March 2011

Open letter to West Somerset Council regarding contaminated land at Hinkley C

Mr. Adrian Dyer and Mr. Andrew Goodchild,
West Somerset Council

In EDF's planning application to you to start preliminary work on the Hinkley C Nuclear Power Station site you ask the question in Section 14:
Is this land contaminated ? EDF's answer is Yes.

EDF is then instructed by you to submit an appropriate contamination assessment with their application.

In preparing our objections to this application a number of Stop Hinkley campaigners looked for this contamination assessment by EDF.

In the absence of any clearly indexed document we assumed that the Radiological Site Characterisation commissioned by EDF from AMEC was intended to be the 'appropriate contamination assessment'.

The finding of AMEC's report was that the uranium they found present on the site is not dangerous.

The Stop Hinkley Campaigners have looked at the AMEC Report in the following ways:-

- Did the methodology of the report comply with the agreed industry standard, Safeguards?
- Was the data in the report accurate and relevant to proving that the uranium on this site is safe?

In both cases it was found that the AMEC Report fell way short of what one would expect in dealing with such a critical subject.

The responses these campaigners have received from DECC, EDF, WSC and the Environment Agency have included such tactics as character assassination, passing the buck, disputing the law and simply not responding to emails.

When presenting our concerns, in the Green Audit Report, to Hergen Haye, Government Head of New Nuclear, at the DECC consultation in Bridgwater on 12/1/2011 he said:-

"It is in no one's interest, including the government, to grant consent to something that would be obviously harmful to human beings. Why would anyone want to do that?"

Surely our fellow human beings at EDF would be wanting to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that disturbing the land at Hinkley Point will not be a health hazard to workers, local people and the wider community in the South West.

In the light of the terrible disaster and critical current radioactive emissions in Japan could we please have definitive affirmation from all the parties involved that they have taken action as a matter of urgency in response to the Green Audit report 12/1/2011.

Also that they have retested the soil on the proposed Hinkley C site for enriched uranium as identified in the report, using the best practice guidelines of land contamination advisors 'Safegrounds', including involving interested third parties and the public.

And that before any more site preparation work takes place this land is closed to the public and all contractors.

For more information:

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Editor's notes below:-

- Hergen Haye speaking at DECC meeting in Bridgwater: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kwXpigVES7I> ___
- Safegrounds website: www.safegrounds.com
- Green Audit Report: www.stophinkley.org