



For Immediate Release

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French reactor – same type as proposed for Hinkley Point C – now three times original cost

The Stop Hinkley Campaign says the latest news from France makes the Hinkley Point C project even less likely to go-ahead.

EDF has admitted that the prototype European Pressurised Reactor (EPR) being built at Flamanville in Normandy will not be up and running until 2018, six years late, and will cost 10.5 billion euros, up from an initial budget of 3 billion. This is the same type of reactor EDF is proposing to build in Britain at Hinkley Point. (1)

“Every week there are new revelations about this disastrous project”, said Stop Hinkley Spokesperson Roy Pumfrey, “EDF is becoming the joke of the utility world. The Company is clearly in a hole – it needs to stop digging, give up on this scheme and let the rest of us get on with planning a sustainable future for Somerset”.

Construction at Flamanville started in 2007 and the plant was originally supposed to go into service in 2012, but EDF has had to announce new delays and cost overruns every few years. In April this year the Company estimated that the French EPR would cost 8.5 billion and be ready to generate electricity by 2017. (2)

Construction of another EPR being built by Areva in Finland started in 2005 but this has suffered even longer delays, and isn't expected to start before 2018 either. And the cost has virtually tripled from 3 billion euros to 8.5 billion (3) Two EPRs being built in China - Taishan-1 & -2 started construction in 2009 and 2010 when they were both due on-line in 2014. In 2015, completion was expected in 2016 – two years late - but no reliable cost information has been published. (4)

Stop Hinkley Spokesperson Roy Pumfrey said *“EDF always said they would learn from the mistakes of Flamanville before building Hinkley Point C. Perhaps if that had really been true EDF Energy wouldn't have created a wasteland out of what used to be rolling English Countryside”*

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Notes

- (1) Reuters 3rd September 2015 <https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/edf-says-flamanville-reactor-delayed-064430040.html>
- (2) Climate News Network 13th April 2015 <http://www.climatenewsnetwork.net/unfinished-nuclear-plants-raise-safety-doubts/>
- (3) Reuters 3rd September 2015 <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/09/03/edf-nuclear-flamanville-idUKL5N1182LY20150903>
- (4) World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2015
<http://www.worldnuclearreport.org/IMG/pdf/20150725MSC-WNISR2015-v2-LR.pdf>