



Department for Environment and Community Services

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Dear Sir or Madam

Consultation on Preferred options for Fuel Element Debris (FED) and Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) Storage facilities

This is a delegated officer response to the above consultation, following consultation with Planning Transportation & Strategic Environment Lead Members and Local Councillors.

We would like to thank the NDA for the opportunity to comment on the above. The NDA's open approach to engagement with local nuclear facility Site Stakeholder Groups and in holding publicly accessible drop in events for this current stage of consultation is acknowledged.

The NDA's proposals to transport Oldbury FED to Hinkley for treatment and ILW to Berkeley for storage are noted, and it is acknowledged that these proposals will result in a reduction in costs and reduced lorry movements on local roads in the vicinity of Oldbury. It is also noted that the ultimate destination for ILW arising from the treatment of Oldbury FED is not yet determined and that there is uncertainty about the volume that will arise. It is recommended that this issue should be resolved at the earliest opportunity – so that impacts and effects are fully understood and to give certainty to local communities.

There are however concerns about the continued decline in employment opportunities in the Oldbury area as a result of the decommissioning of the existing power station, and liaison is encouraged between Magnox who are reducing staffing and Horizon who are based in Gloucester and are increasing staffing, to ease the transition and to minimise impact on local communities.

Concerns remain about the duration of storage of ILW on the proposed host sites (including for example at Berkley which is close to South Gloucestershire), and it is considered important that the issue of a deep geological storage facility is resolved

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as soon as possible and to give certainty to those communities that are being asked to host 'interim' storage of this waste.

Continued engagement with those communities that would be affected by the preferred options is encouraged, and it is considered important that appropriate community benefit packages should be negotiated with affected communities that may be asked to host these facilities and waste for an as yet undetermined period.

We trust that these comments will be taken into account in determining the way forward.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gillian Ellis-King', written in a cursive style.

Gillian Ellis-King
Strategic Projects Manager
Transport & Strategic Projects