

Greens Oppose New Nuclear Power Stations

The recent decision by the European Commission to give the go-ahead to a controversial new nuclear power station in Somerset may have major consequences in the East, especially concerning the future of the proposed Sizewell C reactor in Suffolk and Bradwell power station in Essex.

In late 2014 it was announced that EDF would be allowed to build its £24.5 billion nuclear power station at Hinkley in Somerset - the first nuclear plant built in Britain for approximately 20 years.

The large cost of such projects and the potential dangers posed by nuclear power have angered many campaigners both in the South-West and here in the East, as it is likely that the decision will pave the way for similar projects, notably at Bradwell (Essex) and Sizewell (Suffolk).

Rachel Smith-Lyte, local campaigner and Green Party parliamentary candidate for Suffolk Coastal, which includes Sizewell, said:

"I, like so many local residents, am extremely concerned about this. From a financial and environmental perspective nuclear makes no sense at all. The government should instead be investing in renewable technologies and harnessing the enormous potential for energy production in the East."

Earlier in 2014 the Green Party published its own report outlining how the enormous natural resources found



along the East coast of Britain could be used to power the region in a sustainable way. The Green Party concluded that the region's energy needs could be met through a combination of wind, solar and tidal power, as well as by making the region's homes and businesses more energy efficient.

In contrast, the Coalition Government have been pushing the nuclear agenda, even though other countries, such as Germany and Japan, are scrapping their nuclear reactors.

The Green Party is therefore campaigning for:

- 1) No new nuclear power stations
- 2) More investment in renewable energy, e.g. wind & solar power
- 3) More investment to make buildings more energy efficient

Greens call for £10 minimum wage by 2020

The Green Party is calling for the statutory minimum wage to be immediately lifted to Living Wage levels and for the introduction of a £10 per hour minimum wage for all by 2020.

This would improve the livelihoods of thousands of people across the region. The government's own figures have shown that 4.8 percent of all jobs in the East are minimum wage jobs, with people earning as little as £3.79 per hour. Apprentices can earn as little as £2.73 per hour.

Tackling inequality is one of the key priorities of the Green Party.

If you're interested in finding out more about what the Green Party is doing in your area please visit:

www.eastern.greenparty.org.uk

(local party links available)

Alternatively please contact your relevant county contact/coordinator:

Bedfordshire

Marc Scheimann
39A Stockwood Crescent
Luton, LU1 3SS
marc.scheimann@greenparty.org.uk

Essex

Cllr. James Abbott
1 Waterfall Cottages, Park Road
Rivenhall, CM8 3PR
james.abbott@greenparty.org.uk

Norfolk

Martin Schmierer
205-6 Sackville Place,
44-48 Magdalen St, NR3 1JU
office@eastern.greenparty.org.uk

Cambridgeshire

Ellisif Wasmuth
15 Montague Road
Cambridge, CB4 1BU
cambridge@greenparty.org.uk

Hertfordshire

Graham White
176 Kimbolton Crescent
Stevenage, SG2 8RW
gcwhite2001@yahoo.com

Suffolk

Cllr. John Matthissen
3 Wash Lane Corner
Great Finborough, IP14 3BJ
john@suffolkgreenparty.org.uk