From:
To:
SizewellC
Subject:
Principle issues
Date:
06 April 2021 21:12:53

Dear Planning Inspectorate

Further to the Preliminary Meeting Part 1 and my earlier submission prior to that meeting, I attach below 2 additional submissions for Principle Issues as presented on the day.

Please note I have also written jointly with Bill Parker with comments on other issues raised during the Preliminary Meeting Part 1.

kind regards Frances Crowe

Impact on future generations

I would like the examination to give particular consideration to evaluating the capacity of future generations to safely secure the site and all the waste that has been generated (wherever that will ultimately be located) for its entire lifetime. Although we don't yet benefit from a Well-being of Future Generations Act here, as has been introduced in Wales, it is nevertheless very important that the enquiry examines the impacts fully - in particular the costs (including who will pay) and carbon footprint (as highlighted by Alison Downes and Chris Wilson)- and indeed long-term practicality of defending a site that may in effect become an island. This evaluation needs to take into account the high level of uncertainty in predicting climate change impacts and therefore model the full range of scenarios - including the worst - as well as taking into account potential issues of resource scarcity and the possibility that future generations may be having to deal with multiple events at other sites at the same time.

Significantly, we have had very recent experience of the partial destruction of sea defences at Thorpeness just 2 miles south of the Sizewell site. This has happened after only around 10 years of their life despite this being expected to be an estimated 25 years. Although the defences were known to have a limited lifespan I do not believe that any measures were put in place for its end of life management. It now represents a significant hazard to beach visitors as well as being partially ineffective.

For the sake of future generations, we cannot afford to let such a situation arise with this project - even if it is decades - or even centuries - in the future. Given this project will give some relatively short-term gains but leave a massive long-term impact, the findings should guide whether in fact this development is viable from both a financial and a climate change point of view. I therefore ask that consideration is given to making this a principle issue in its own right.

Protection from cyber attack and terrorism

Secondly, I ask that the examination also include evaluation of the cost and viability of protecting the development from cyber attack or other terrorist events, especially in the light of the Government's recent defence review which emphasised the heightened risk of this type of event. It should be borne in mind that local residents and businesses will have absolutely no insurance cover in the event of any kind of incident at a nuclear facility, whatever the cause, as this is excluded from all insurance policies [the radioactive contamination exclusion clause (RCE)]. In the event of any kind of incident, we could lose everything.