

Hinkley

INQUIRER

Greenpeace Go Public

The only complete and clear account

Arguing their case for the first time at a Public Inquiry, *Greenpeace* (GP 3, 4, 5, Day 103) concentrated on "the key issue of safety".



"The risk of serious accident is unacceptable", said *Greenpeace's* lawyer Arthur Marriot. He then outlined the many ways in which *Greenpeace* claim public opinion is manifestly opposed to nuclear expansion. This included:

- ★ The record 20,000-plus objectors to Hinkley C;
- ★ The participation of Local Authorities in the COLA grouping;
- ★ Evidence from a wide variety of opinion polls;
- ★ Clear opposition from the Labour Party and Liberal Democrats;
- ★ Government protection of the soon-to-be-privatised industry, showing that neither City nor public will freely invest in nuclear;
- ★ The lack of insurance against

nuclear accidents;
 ★ Growing distrust of the nuclear option worldwide.

Uninsurable

Phillipe Sands, barrister and lecturer in European law, explained that internationally, operators of nuclear plant have only a limited liability - and that governments have recognised that the nuclear industry could not develop unless protected in this way.

In the case of the local farmer, said Sands, "he would be one claimant amongst obviously a very large pool in the event of a serious accident... so the chances of his recovering anything more than, perhaps, even a few pounds is extremely unlikely."

In answer to a question from the Inspector, Sands confirmed that people in this country who suffered damage from a nuclear accident in another country would have a claim in the courts of that country.

Global opposition

Christopher Flavin from the World-watch Institute in Washington DC told the Inquiry that all over the world the public is increasingly concerned about the dangers of accidents - and of nuclear waste disposal. In response, many governments have curtailed or cancelled their nuclear programmes, said Flavin.

Only in France and Japan are there clear plans for expansion, he said, but these are exceptions to the global trend. There are less than 100 nuclear plants being built worldwide - half as many as in 1983. "It is now more than a decade since the US

ordered a nuclear plant of any kind", said Flavin.

Flavin also told the Inquiry that the Commission of the European Communities has monitored public opinion over the last decade: "They conclude that there has been a definite increase in anxiety about nuclear power since Chernobyl... The survey finds that the majority of Europeans now think that the development of nuclear power is unacceptably dangerous."

Flavin gave details of other opinion polls which have also shown a clear majority opposed to further nuclear expansion:

- * Almost 90% against increasing Britain's reliance on nuclear (British Social Attitudes Report, 1987);
- * Gallup polls show that those who



IN THIS ISSUE

Greenpeace on public opinion and insurance. COLA, Lorraine Mann and individuals on waste and decommissioning. Emergency planning (Topic 4) kicks off.

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want nuclear stopped or not developed further has risen from 42% in 1979 to 74% in 1988.

After a series of questions from the CEBG's barrister David Silsoe, the Inspector asked Flavin if he thought that countries like the US and the UK "can maintain a reasonable level of economic growth without the construction of substantial new electricity generating capacity, i.e. by relying on energy efficiency and conservation measures?" Flavin argued that this was quite possible.

Local farmer

Clive Knox, whose farm at Stogursey is only 1.7 miles from the proposed Hinkley C, said he feared a catastrophic nuclear accident could destroy his family's livelihood and that of his 10 employees. Even a leak of radioactivity could make his produce unsaleable. Yet, said Knox, he can't insure himself against these risks: "Cover is not available, and in the event of an accident at Hinkley Point I would probably have to take legal action against the CEBG or, ultimately, the Government."

The Inspector responded unsympathetically, saying Knox's argument "has got absolutely nothing to do with insurance. It is simply that you are saying the risks are just too great?"

Summing up, Marriot remarked that a change in opinion about nuclear power had already occurred, "and the Secretary of State ignores popular opinion in this country at his peril."

Disposal Dispute

On the third anniversary of Chernobyl, the *Consortium of Opposing Local Authorities* brought expert witnesses to the Inquiry (Days 102 and 104) to attack the CEBG's case on waste and decommissioning (COLA 35, 36, 43).

Alan Martin, previously a physicist for the Atomic Energy Research Establishment and a nuclear submarine programme at Dounreay, said that nuclear waste had already built up at the Hinkley site - and would get worse.

Matter of urgency

Material from decommissioning will be added to the intermediate level waste and spent fuel from the A and B stations now at the site, said Martin. He argued that the waste situation

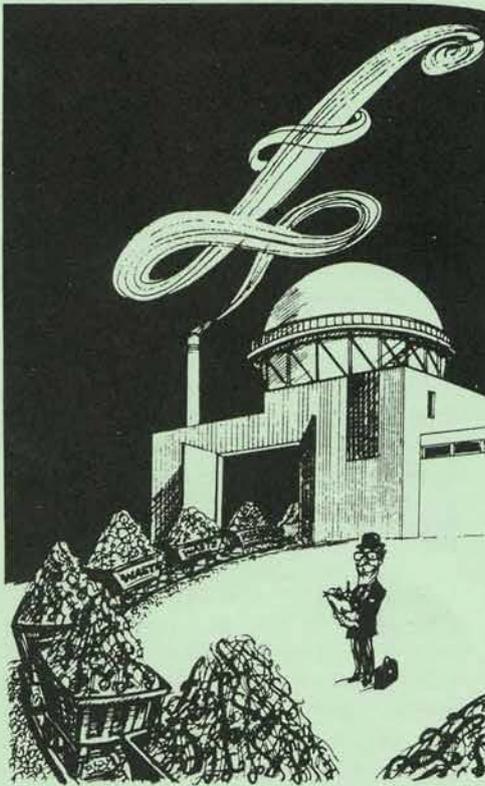
has deteriorated even since Sir Frank Layfield commented after the Sizewell Inquiry that the setting up of new sites for low and intermediate level waste was "a matter of urgency".

The earliest a new site can be expected is about 2010, said Martin. He also pointed out that the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate believes radioactive waste should be kept on site for as short a time as possible.

Waste most dangerous

John Large, the independent energy consultant, told the Inquiry that the storage of dangerous radioactive waste at Hinkley Point gives more cause for concern than the nuclear reactors there.

Waste storage buildings next to the Hinkley power stations would be even more vulnerable to external hazards like plane crashes than the power stations, as the storage buildings are less strong. And in a major accident, said Large, at least 10 times more radioactivity would be released from a waste store than a reactor.



'Well, it's only taxpayers' money.'

Large added that a radioactive waste store would be dangerous for much longer because it would remain on site until after the nuclear power stations had stopped operating and had been dismantled.

Large told the Inquiry he believes no nuclear power station should be built unless the CEBG produces a complete design for it - including how to dismantle the station safely when it is no longer needed. Large believes a fire could happen during the decommissioning of Hinkley A (due to happen in the next few years)

through ignition of the fuel, fuel cladding and graphite core.

He calculates that the cost of decommissioning and waste storage alone could be about £20 billion: "The cost of disposal of radioactive waste at Drigg in Cumbria has risen by over 800% in the last three years. To dispose of nuclear waste just the size of a tea chest would cost £1.5 million with another £1.5 million to transport. By the year 2000 there will be some 3,000 such tea chests and they probably still won't know what to do with them. Some will still be around and dangerous in 100,000 years' time," concluded Large.

Once Stung . . .

John Large (COLA 43) gave a graphic description of the potential problems with decommissioning Hinkley C on Day 105. In the process, he revealed that he kept bees.

"Could I give you a simple example? Take a beekeeper. He sets up a beehive. The beehive sits together, the combs and the frames go in the various supers, the honey boxes and the brew chambers. He is assembling, putting together the beehive - very simple.

"He then takes his fuel, the bees. He chooses a nice, placid stock of honey bees, Italian honey bees. He puts those honey bees in his beehive and he runs his season. At the end of the season he comes along. One beehive he takes to pieces: a lovely placid stock of bees, beautifully organised hive within, takes his frames out, removes his honey.

"The next hive, his placid bees have transmogrified to truculent English blacks. Somehow the queen has got out - change of queens. These bees have not organised the hive. The beekeeper has extreme difficulty. He has got to get into the hive.

"He has now got an aggressive, truculent stock of bees. It is radioactive, it is contaminated. Where he expects to find the honey is not where he expects to find the brew, etc. Beekeepers get stung, actually. I can give you authoritative evidence on this because I am a beekeeper.

"The point is you cannot predict the condition of something so precisely after 40 years of operation. As a beekeeper, I have enough trouble predicting the condition of a beehive after one season."

Postscript: By one of those coincidences (one in a million chance?) the COLA offices at the Inquiry were invaded the following week by a swarm of bees!

The Little Theory

Pro-nuclear "objector" Dr. Kitty Little gave a succinct summary of her views in introduction to her evidence (KL 6) on Topic 3.

"The 'problem' of nuclear waste can be disposed of in a single sentence," she said. "Technically there is not, and never has been, a problem. The real problem... is an expensive propaganda exercise carried out with the co-operation of the media.

"The motive of those responsible is quite simple - to assist the controller of the French nuclear industry to gain monopoly control of nuclear power. To achieve this, pressure groups (who at the Windscale Inquiry were wholly financed by a cousin of the Director of the French firm) have sought first to mislead public opinion, and then to suggest that nothing should be done without public approval.

"The 'inner circle' of these pressure groups decide what the media should say, lobby Parliament, act as 'advisers' to Parliamentary committees, and often formulate or help to formulate EEC legislation. In all this they pretend that those with factual knowledge are selfishly motivated, and so should be ignored."

So now you know.

"Alarming Flaws": FOE

Friends of the Earth presented its evidence on Topic 3 during Day 104, criticising both the waste handling and decommissioning plans for Hinkley C.

Roger Kayes, of the Oxford-based *Political Ecology Research Group*, said that close scrutiny of the CEGB's decommissioning proposals showed that the final dismantling was likely to be delayed much longer than the public might want - possibly well over 100 years after shutdown. In practice, public pressure might demand it be done within 10 or 20 years; this would also mean more funding would have to be available sooner than the CEGB planned, as in the United States.

"The CEGB has not put forward a detailed plan," Kayes said. "If permission for Hinkley C is given, the Inspector should make it explicit that

this does not include approval for (the timing or detail) of decommissioning."

Public forum

Kayes also recommended the setting up of a "public forum" so that the public could be involved in such decisions, and that the CEGB should be bound by legal agreement to "decontaminate the site for unrestricted release within a specified time."

Philip Richardson, a consultant geologist who worked for British Coal for 12 years, challenged the CEGB's crucial assumption that a deep disposal site for low and intermediate level waste could be found.



Among "alarming flaws" in the basic methodology, he identified "insufficient information on the role of fractures and faults in controlling ground water migration" around a waste site, as well as problems about the migration of gases and long-term seismological changes. Problems with identifying suitable rock formations for the site had been shown by the failure of a waste isolation plant in New Mexico.

Richardson also suggested a conflict between "scientific independence and the demand of political expediency." Much of the work for NIREX, for example, was carried out by the nuclear-dependent Harwell laboratories.

Both experts, but Kayes in particular, were closely cross-examined by the CEGB.



Marathon Man

Brian Rome, a major objector who has been attending the Inquiry daily, produced another marathon performance with his evidence on radioactive waste and decommissioning (CONSOC 5). His proof consists of 145 pages in 11 chapters, covering most conceivable aspects of the issue.

His subject headings - in the inimitable Rome style - give a flavour of his mammoth submission. His chapter entitled "The Political Nature of Nuclear Attitudes to Decommissioning and Radwastes", describes "the early nuclear attitude: insouciance and levity *vis-a-vis* radwastes".

His chapter on "Decision Making" has subsections on "Real politik", "The Hinkley site: radwaste dump by inertia and default (or by stealth?)" and "Public Inquiry procedures: 'fair and can be seen to be fair'."

His section "The Unknowables" covers "Problems too difficult to comprehend" and "Attitudes when facing Uncertainty and Imponderables".

He was questioned by both the Inspector and Dr. Little.

Miss Rogers Withdraws

After the heavy exchanges of Days 100 and 101, in which it was alleged that the Programme Officer had been "misleading", the *Department of the Environment's* barrister returned on Day 104 with her tail between her legs.

"I am instructed by the Department to withdraw unequivocally

complaints made about the administration of these proceedings," Miss Rogers told the Inspector. "It is accepted by all parties that misunderstandings arose on both sides as to the timing of Mr. Ponsford's evidence last week."

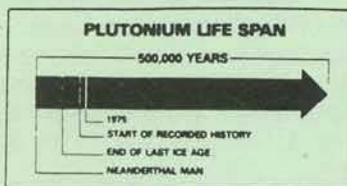
Miss Rogers even apologised "for the absence of my instructing solicitor today, who makes clear no disrespect is intended."

The Inspector said that he now regarded "the whole unfortunate incident as closed."

Lying To Sir

On Day 105 the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) accused the CEBG of lying to the Inspector about the transfer of plutonium from civil reactors to use in nuclear weapons.

Dr. David Lowry (CND 4) said that after Chernobyl the UK nuclear industry had promised a "new nuclear glasnost in information disclosure". But as far as plutonium was concerned, this had been merely a "cosmetic gesture", he said.



Not to be trusted

Outside the Inquiry "the CEBG are prepared to state publicly... that plutonium from CEBG reactors 'has gone into the defence stockpile', yet inside this Inquiry they insist on keeping to the fiction stated by Mr. Davis on Day 3."

Lowry concluded that "the CEBG are, in effect, corporately lying to this Inquiry, just as their former Chairman, Lord Hinton, accused them of lying to the Sizewell Inquiry. Such organisations should not be entrusted with plutonium where their integrity is so open to question.

Secrecy

Dr. Lowry also criticised the CEBG and Department of Energy for continued secrecy about so-called "safeguards" for plutonium at Sellafield. "The CEBG have refused to answer the detailed questions on plutonium accountability submitted to them by CND."

In response to questions from the Inspector, Lowry said that he did not believe it was possible in any case - for reasons of international politics - to set up a proper system of safeguarding plutonium so that it cannot be used in weapons.

SHE: Solve "Back End" Problems

Lorraine Mann, convenor of Scotland Against Nuclear Dumping and representing Stop Hinkley Expansion (SHE 7) defended herself strongly against CEBG questioning on Day 105.

In her evidence, the main points of which were explained in the last issue of the *Inquirer*, she listed the consistent failure of NIREX to find an acceptable waste dump site. Until these "massive problems" have been solved, she concluded, the Hinkley C application must be rejected.

Answering questions from Mr. Grove for the CEBG, Mann said that the safest solution was for waste generated by reactors like Hinkley C to be kept, above ground, at the site where it was produced, to be checked and monitored whenever necessary.

In answer to a question from the Inspector, Mann argued that the CEBG's claim it could cope with Hinkley C waste on site wasn't good enough. "If (Hinkley C) gets the go-ahead without the back end being properly tied up, there is going to be pressure on a future public enquiry," she said. This applied whether it was an inquiry into deep disposal, with Hinkley C wastes mounting up, or an inquiry into extra storage at Hinkley itself, "where there are many people in this room who would no doubt be readily signing up to object."

Mann's evidence also prompted a further episode in a debate about what attitude the workforce at the Dounreay fast breeder research establishment in Caithness takes to the site being used for nuclear waste.

With Sellafield, it is one of only two current NIREX dump site options.

Mann said a ballot of the industrial workforce at Dounreay had recently shown over half against test drilling to see if the site was suitable. Dr. Kitty Little, who defends the fast breeder at the Inquiry, claimed the following day (106) that only 826 out of the 2,100 workforce at the plant had voted. Professor Simpson, one of the Inspector's assessors, who is Scottish, also joined in. The debate continues.

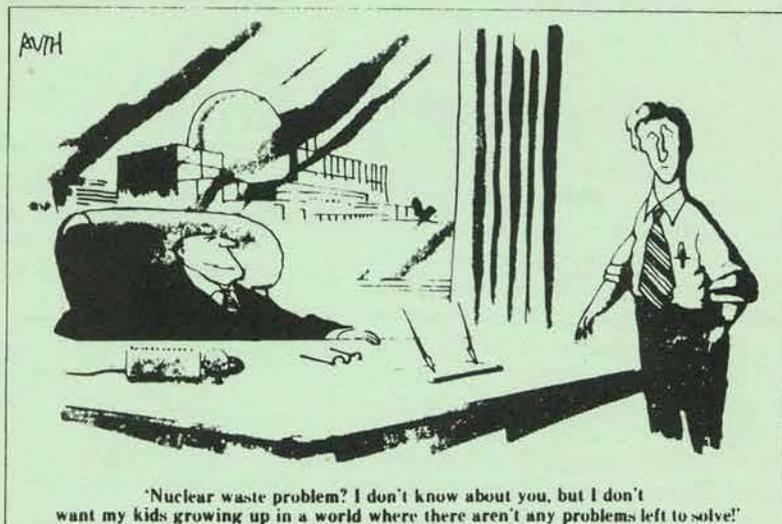
Experts At Sea

On Day 99, the Inspector announced that Mr. Blackman from the Department of Transport would be able to answer questions on Roll-On/Roll-Off facilities at Combwich wharf, "insofar as these matters fall within the remit of his department." In the event it turned out "a damp squib".

Maureen Randall of *Combwich Residents Environmental Concern* wanted to know on Day 101 if Mr. Blackman could help. Blackman replied that his branch of the *Department of Transport* was not concerned with such matters. Mr. C. N. Young, Blackman's supporter, was no more helpful. "Neither of us are experts on ships," he replied. "We did attempt to have an expert on maritime ships available but that gave us some problems."

Mrs. Randall also wanted to know how many lorry loads of decommissioned waste would be carried by one boat. "I don't think at this time, Mrs. Randall, anybody would be able to tell you that; the CEBG or anybody else," was Blackman's reply.

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Individuals Object

A large number of objectors came to the Inquiry to express their disquiet about nuclear waste and decommissioning (Topic 3). The Inspector and his Assessors took time to question them in some of the most relaxed exchanges to date.

On Day 105, retired teacher *Frank Frisby* expressed his views (FF 1) as an ordinary citizen and taxpayer. "I am deeply concerned about the future of our country and the welfare of our descendants," said Frisby. "The greater the number of nuclear power stations that are built, the greater the accumulation of this dangerous substance (radioactive waste) and therefore, the greater the danger to our children and grandchildren and succeeding generations."

True in parts

Mary Barker of Taunton Labour Party (TCLP 4) returned to the Inquiry to say that *CEGB* and Government sources spoke some truth but not the whole truth about radioactive waste. *Nicholas Ridley* has said "we should clean up our rivers now and not leave it to our children," commented *Barker*, "yet he did not say that our children would have to deal with all the accumulations of nuclear waste".

Olga Farooqui (OF 1), a chemistry teacher for 13 years, said she had changed from an enthusiastic proponent of nuclear energy to an opponent - chiefly because of the problems posed by radioactive waste disposal.

Science fiction

She referred to the report of the Radioactive Waste Management Committee (July 1988) which criticises "disappointingly confused or deficient" waste management policies. "Keeping in mind that the half life of Plutonium 239 is 24,400 years, the remote future is remote indeed," observed *Farooqui*. "Trying to imagine what societies will be like after thousands of years is pure science fiction. One can conjure all sorts of different scenarios where people could gain access to a deep repository, either accidentally or on purpose."

Sue Kelland (SK 1), a conservator of stonework and monuments, reviewed the history of radioactive waste "disposal" - and questioned the meaning of the phrase.

Disposing of "disposal"

"Disposal" implies getting rid of something for good. The earth has

not the capacity to "dispose" of limitless quantities of deadly material which will exist when man is no more." She was applauded by the audience and questioned by both the Inspector and his Assessor, Dr. Duncan.

"So all the efforts of NIREX and Public Inquiries," suggested the Inspector, "are really to no point then because if, in principle, you cannot do it there is no point investigating one place or another place?" Dr. Duncan asked whether radioactive waste should not be treated like all other toxic waste, but *Kelland* disagreed.



Indefinite storage

Ian White, Labour's prospective Euro candidate for Bristol and Bath, echoed *Kelland's* concerns: "It seems to me that as far as nuclear waste is concerned it is simply stored. The use of the word 'disposal' is entirely inappropriate... I contend that putting radioactive waste in boxes and grouting it in with cement amounts to indefinite storage, which is not considered to be an acceptable waste management option."

The Inspector questioned *White* on whether he would prefer to see a decision for reprocessing of waste, or for direct disposal. *White* would express no preference, arguing that his concern was for the long-term

aspects of so-called disposal.

Invisible issue

Hugh Scott (HS 1) argued that the whole issue of nuclear waste has been hidden from the public: "An oil slick or a slag heap is very visible, but I believe the nuclear waste problem has been shelved." Should the nuclear power programme be accelerated, "a major environmental disaster will be created", he said. "It is not worth the creation of the 50,000-year curse of nuclear waste merely to gain a few terrawatts of extra generating capacity for a few decades or so."

May Morris (MM 3) returned to the Inquiry to raise the spectre "not only (of) errors of judgement but deliberate fraud" in the handling of waste. She also urged the Inspector to take note of the high level of public concern about radioactive waste as shown in a range of recent opinion polls.

Turn over Beethoven

Harry Horrobin (RDPG 3) of *Roadwater and District Peace Group*, commented that "the nuclear industry is producing lethal cancer-inducing forms of radiation which nowhere exist in comparable concentration." We should be encouraging economy and efficiency, he said, rather than building vast reactors which take centuries to dismantle.

"The *CEGB's* advert on the television about clean safe electricity is nonsense", believes *Horrobin*. "No electricity is safe and nuclear reactors are not clean. This advert is an insult to Beethoven, who managed without electricity."

★ ★ ★

Due to the power cut which struck only a couple of hours before the deadline for the *Inquirer*, reports of individuals' evidence will not appear until issue 15. These include *Dickon Fell*, *Jacquetta Selley*, *Tim Deere-Jones*, *Jo Fitzhugh*, *Celia Hadow*, *Alan Debenham*, *Raymond Thomas* and *Glenn Vowles*.



You Can't Plan For Chernobyl

The subject of emergency planning (Topic 4) is now under discussion at the Inquiry. Rick le Coyte of Greenpeace gives his perspective on the issues:

"The accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in 1979 drew attention to a lot of problems in emergency plans. Prior to this US emergency plans covered a two-mile zone - similar to that in the UK (3.2km).

"Evacuation advice was given to 2,500 people, although in the event 150,000 people spontaneously evacuated, causing major difficulties in access to and from the reactor.

"Another unanticipated result was the non-co-operation of emergency services. With their families at risk, only 6 out of 70 doctors remained available at one local hospital.

"The plant was inundated with media attention too, and in response to this the CEBG in Britain came up with a press briefing centre. They now have two centres in Bedminster Down, the CEBG headquarters, to take pressure off people at the plant - and to do a PR job.



"Sorry about that, but 'a miss is as good as a mile' as we always say!"

"Evacuation zones in the UK are based on the type of reactor. The Magnox has an evacuation zone of about 2.4km (3.5km for Hinkley Point), the AGRs have about 1km - and for the PWR it's the perimeter fence.

"Chernobyl brought the whole issue home to people here, demonstrating the scale and international effects of such a disaster. Somerset County Council has since produced an off-site emergency plan in conjunction with the CEBG. They now have the most detailed emergency plans of any site.

"The 'reference' accident is what the CEBG consider to be the worst possible accident that could occur. It's a limited scenario that involves a limited release of radioactivity - much smaller than at Chernobyl. If the accident extends beyond their scenario, their plans are supposed to be flexible enough to be extended too.

"From a Greenpeace point of view, nuclear power is inherently dangerous and you can't rule out the possibility of a large-scale accident. Limiting the argument to the reference accident is dangerous in itself. We say, forget the reference accident, as we already know a larger one could occur.

"But you can't possibly plan to do anything effective in a Chernobyl scale accident.

"At Chernobyl they had scores of ambulances and a multitude of medical teams. Here, resources are much more limited: a recent CEBG exercise used 10 ambulances. In the CEBG's plans it's not even expected that ambulance crews should deal with contaminated victims.

"Under Topic 4 many objectors will be attacking the whole concept of the reference accident. In reality we know that far worse things can happen. You can't prepare for accidents on that scale - therefore Hinkley C should not be built."

Planning for Emergencies

The CEBG's view of how they would cope with a "serious" accident at Hinkley Point was described by David Western on Day 108.

The emergency plans drawn up by the CEBG, and endorsed by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, are based on the worst accident that they say has any practical possibility of occurring. This accident is referred to as the "Reference Accident" and varies with the type of reactor - Magnox, AGR and PWR each have different reference accidents.

In the event of an accident, the CEBG would use Emergency Reference Levels (ERLs) of dose (these give an indication of the extent and degree of radioactivity at a particular point) to recommend the specific protective measures which should be considered or implemented. The counter-measures considered are evacuation, sheltering and administration of stable iodine tablets.

Monitoring teams

The radiological monitoring necessary for calculation of ERLs is carried out by two teams who drive to fixed points along the anticipated path of the plume, carry out measurements and then relay these back to the station.

The CEBG emergency plans for a Reference Accident cater for evacuation up to a distance of 2.4km for Hinkley A station. For the Hinkley B and planned C stations, the CEBG does not anticipate an accident which would result in ERLs high enough to consider evacuation outside the station boundary.

The CEBG say that their detailed plans covering only a limited area do have the capability of extension if necessary, as Sir Frank Layfield recommended after the Sizewell Inquiry.

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The CEGB will also be drawing up specific emergency procedures for the C station site. However, although the detailed procedures will differ from those in the current plan, the principles, structure and approach will follow existing CEGB practice. In some areas the PWR would have additional facilities.

Sexist!

The Inspector has always been quick to quash any kind of "disturbance" at his Inquiry, and when the audience applauded Ian White on Day 106 he told them, "Be quiet. This is not a mothers' meeting. It is supposed to be legal proceedings."

But the intrepid Dickon Fell didn't this pass:

D.F. "Can I ask the Inspector if he is of the opinion that it is by nature impossible for a mothers' meeting to be a forum for legal proceedings?"

Inspector. "Get on with your evidence, please."

D.F. "I just thought it was rather a sexist remark to make."

Inspector. "Get on with your evidence will you?"

Matters masculine resumed.

power cut be due to: (a) Communists, (b) a secret switch somewhere in the Secretariat perhaps, (c) the new Tory administration in County Hall, or (d) a demonstration of need by the CEGB?

Inside, however, the atmosphere was a little more sombre. After a short break the Inspector was raring to go, even without the paraphernalia of modern electrical technology. But the transcript writers would have none of it. No words on paper without electricity!

★ ★ ★

A three-year old at the Inquiry creche knew more of the Inspector's presence during the power cut than anyone else. "A man called Mr. Brains came," she said. "I asked him how old he is. He is 18."

★ ★ ★

The first baby to be transported into the Inquiry hall entered in a pram on Day 106. Its mother was waiting patiently to give evidence. Although a few gurglings were audible, these were not recorded on the transcript.

★ ★ ★

As Greenpeace activists dug a mock grave and erected a giant radiation hazard sign on the proposed Hinkley C site, the third anniversary of the Chernobyl accident in the Soviet Union (Day 105) was noted less dramatically at the Inquiry.

Crispin Aubrey (Stop Hinkley Expansion) pointed out that the absence of flowers on the Inspector's table could be connected with this "particularly sombre occasion". The Inspector agreed that the anniversary was a serious matter. "Many people have been involved," he hinted darkly.

Working Out The Inquiry

Inquiry Workshops

Stop Hinkley Expansion in Bristol are running a series of Inquiry workshops, where people can find out how to make their views heard at the Public Inquiry.

1) Monday May 8, 7.00pm, Albany Centre, Shaftesbury Avenue, Montpellier, Bristol.

2) Monday May 22, 7.30 pm, Cheltenham Road Library (near the Arches), Bristol.

3) Thursday June 8, 7.00 p.m., St. Werburgh's City Farm, Watercross

Road, St. Werburgh's, Bristol.

Contact: Stop Hinkley Campaign, Avon Environmental Centre, Unit G, Arnos Castle Estate, Junction Road, Brislington, Bristol. Tel: (0272) 771235 (with ansaphone) or 710680.

■ The Inspector has asked the Department of Energy to provide a witness for Topic 4. It is expected that Brian Hampton will appear on May 17.

■ The Inspector requested information from the CEGB on three points. The first relates to electro-magnetic filtration and doses to workers (S.3457), the second to an aspect of decommissioning (S.3548) and the third to manufacturing processes at the French Framatome factory (S.3550).

■ Dates have been set for the Inspector to hear objections specifically to the new roads that Somerset County consider necessary to deal with the extra traffic during the construction of Hinkley C. Technically entitled "the Bridgwater and Cannington Bypass and River Parrett Bridge Scheme Inquiries", the dates are June 27 and 28. Objections to the Compulsory Purchase Order which the CEGB wants in the village of Combwich to facilitate traffic from its wharf there, will be heard on June 13 and 14.

Rawhide At Stop Hinkley Centre

Stuart Purves has taken on the job of running the Stop Hinkley Centre since the departure of Sheriff Jill Sutcliffe. Head 'em up an' move 'em out, Stuart!

"Is there life after Jill?"

I was heading east, astride my trusty steed, "Raleigh", when I hit town. Boy was it quiet - not a soul to be seen. Cannington is nothing like the city back east.

I headed for Ma Pidcock's. I'd heard that she ran a tight saloon and had a room to spare. No cars or lorries - the roads were empty. No hassles for a city-wise kid like me. I spoke too soon, a farmer appeared with his dog - six feet high with teeth to match - the damn thing took a shine to my leg. I knew that either I could coolly act as if I hadn't felt a thing as the huge jaws rapped themselves around my calf, or I could yell out in pain. I yelled!

As you know this is about Hinkley A and B and soon it maybe Hinkley C. But we are trying to stop it. Because we DO'NT want cats with two tails. We DO'NT want dogs with two heads and we DO'NT want us lying in bed as a pile of bones. So lets stop it. By trying out the wind and the waves. Shouting, and screaming outside the gates. Blocking the gates up. So if you agree with me. You can try it.

By Holly Cross
(Age 7)

Short Circuits

At 11 am on Friday morning, Day 110 of the Inquiry, proceedings were suddenly interrupted. A power cut, no less! What better to do on such a lovely hot summer day than to hang around outside chatting to friends. The CEGB looked distinctly cheerful, none more so than David Silsoe who asked in passing - could the

After checking in, I headed for the office. I'd heard that the old sheriff had left town, headed back east they said after a ballyhoo with the Judge, who goes by the name of Sir. But I wasn't scared, I was ready for anything!

Well, almost. On my second day, the Judge and the "Department" had a right old set-to. The "Department" claimed they had been misled and the Judge took none too kindly to this. He came out, six-shooters blazing. He takes no prisoners, this Judge; I shall have to watch my step.

If this wasn't enough, there is also the "Firm". Hundreds of them living in oversized shoeboxes and wearing suits, one'n'all. They're headed by the man in grey, "Lord Silsoe" is the name.

The second week began with the mass arrival of my old employers, *Greenpeace*. There was a whole herd of them with the "Wildblood" at the head. She had that determined look on her face, she was out to give the "Firm" hell!

Following hot on the *Greenpeace*'s footsteps was "Bonnie Lorraine" all the way down from Ross-shire. But she was anything but bonnie when she faced the "Firm". They sent in

their heavy artillery, but Lorraine was like a rock, totally immovable, giving as good as she got - no, better! The firm retreated, their tails between their legs. "

Stuart Purves

... to be continued

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Facilities For Objectors

LIBRARY

The Public Office at Cannington Court dealing with the Public Inquiry contains the whole gamut of documents being prepared in connection with the PWR proposals.

TRANSCRIPTS

These can be obtained from the Secretariat, cost of weekly posting for four issues £2.00.

TRANSPORT

There is a free bus service to and from Cannington, as below.

Use it or lose it!

Tuesday - Thursday		
9.00 am	Taunton BR Station	5.55 pm
9.30	Bridgwater BR Station	5.25
9.40	Inquiry Venue	5.15
9.45	Creche	5.10

N.B. When the Inquiry starts at 9.30 am, all morning bus times are half an hour earlier.

Friday		
8.00 am	Taunton	4.25 pm
8.30	Bridgwater	3.55
8.40	Inquiry Venue	3.45
8.45	Creche	3.40

Creche on Fridays 8.30 am - 4 pm.

CRECHE

People with children under five are welcome to use the excellent creche at Cannington. Open each day of the Inquiry from half-an-hour before proceedings begin. Telephone in advance to book your place: (0278) 653081.

The Hinkley Point C Public Inquiry Secretariat, Cannington Court, Church Street, Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2HA. Telephone: 0278 444005.

DIARY

The programme is provisional and subject to change, so keep in touch with Keith Parker, Programme Officer (0278 444005, ext. 128) for up-to-date information.

Weeks 29, 30, 31

N.B. Starting time 9.30 am unless otherwise stated and finishing about 5 pm. Fridays start at 9 am and finish about 3.30 pm. After the Bank Holiday, starts at 1.30 pm on Tuesday May 30, not sitting on Tuesday May 23.

Tuesday May 9

Procedural matters, followed by Mr. M. J. Turner of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate under cross-examination. Followed by Mr. G. A. M. Webb of the National Radiological Protection Board, evidence and cross-examination.

Wednesday May 10

Webb cross-examination continued.

Thursday May 11

Webb cross-examination completed. Followed by Mr. B. Ponsford of the Department of the Environment, evidence and cross-examination.

Friday May 12

Mr. Ponsford cross-examination continued.

Tuesday May 16

Procedural matters. Mr. G. Meekings of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food on nuclear emergency planning policy; evidence and cross-examination.

Wednesday May 17

Mr. B. Hampton of the Department of Energy, evidence and cross-examination.

Thursday May 18

P. A. Manning of the Avon and Somerset Constabulary, evidence and cross-examination.

Friday May 19

Dr. Kitty Little, evidence and cross-examination followed by the evidence and cross-examination of Ms. N. Rams-

den, Mrs. K. Geraghty of the West Dorset Safe Energy Campaign, Mrs. C. McLeish of Cabot Labour Party and Dr. A. Jones of COLA.

Wednesday May 24

Procedural matters. Dr. A. Jones, cross-examination continued followed by Mr. M. Davis (COLA 45) and Mr. M. Ferguson (COLA 46).

Thursday May 25

Mr. N. Musselwhite (COLA 47) evidence and cross-examination. Followed by evidence and cross-examination of Mr. P. Sands, for Greenpeace, Dr. L. Morrison, Mr. F. Horseman of Farmers for a Nuclear Free Future and Mr. T. Ambrose of Avon County NALGO.

Friday May 26

Evidence and cross-examination of Ms. A. Goldie of Sedgemoor Green Party, Mr. I. Dixon of Exeter CND, Mr. B. Rome of Conservation Society, Mr. R. Thomas of Camborne anti-nuclear group, Mrs. J. Pring, Messrs. R. Poole and J. Marshall of the National Union of Public Employees and Mr. P. Morris.

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