

Performance & Innovation Unit
Admiralty Arch
The Mail
London
SW1A 2WH

Dear Sirs

Performance and Innovation Unit: Energy Policy Review

Babtie Group has made a significant contribution to the development of nuclear power generation, alongside our work on conventional coal, oil and gas power stations. This includes the design and construction of safe nuclear plant, and our continuing work on nuclear projects, which centres on life extension and post operation decommissioning works. On a broader front, we also advise clients in the construction, mining, transportation, process, water supply and treatment sectors. As a result, we are aware of their differing safety demands: from this we are not surprised about the general public's apparent lack of consistency in their perception of risk. It is therefore encouraging that government is attempting to improve the general level of understanding by quantifying risks and discussing benefits in a more open and mature manner.

I write to express my company's view that nuclear power generation should have a continuing and significant role in electricity production in the UK, and urge that the current Energy Policy Review being undertaken by PIU takes full account of the benefits which nuclear generation offers. I would draw the Unit's attention to:

- The current contribution that nuclear power makes to reducing the UK's carbon dioxide emissions
- The contribution that it makes to the diversification and security of supply
- The benefits of including increasing nuclear generation to meet expected rise in energy demand at a time of lower greenhouse gas targets
- The excellent safety record of the civil nuclear power industry
- The advances made in dealing with nuclear liabilities taking account of Best Practicable Environmental Options.
- The existence of a strong and powerful Regulatory system to provide assurance that all nuclear sites are properly managed.
- The development of inherently safe reactor designs

We therefore consider that at present it is important for government to endorse positively the significant contribution that nuclear generation is making, and to establish a viable way forward for the building of replacement nuclear power stations. This we see as the right decision in the face of the current environmental and economic challenges facing the country as a whole and the electricity supply industry in particular where we believe that the nuclear option should be available for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Perfect
Chairman

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