

I wish to make the following contribution to the current energy review:

For many years, when the CEGB were responsible for meeting the country's energy needs, they developed an energy policy based on diversity, i.e.: Electricity Generation from a mix of fuels. The UK has continued to benefit from this diversity, even though the CEGB no longer exists. The benefits have been, NO significant crises in the electrical power requirements of the country for several decades. Even throughout the Miners strike, the country was able to keep essential services supplied, due to this diversity of fuels.

As with so many other areas of life, we need to learn for History (good and bad)

However, the good aspects of this fuel diversity are beginning to be lost in terms of the Nuclear Generating Stations, with three Magnox Power Stations now being de-commissioned, and a fourth to start shortly. As time progresses, even more will reach end of useful life, and be de-commissioned

We need to retain this Nuclear fuel diversity in Electricity Generation.

Now is the time to look favourably at new build of Nuclear Generating plants, particularly as the lead time for seeking planning permission, design and build is lengthy, and could 5 - 8 years before new Nuclear Stations could be in service

The economics on Nuclear Generation are now much better understood, and the unit generation costs are genuinely not much greater than some of the other major fuels (coal, gas, etc) These costs also include provision for full decommissioning and recovery of sites. Can other generation plant's really claim this?

Another major advantage of Nuclear Generation is low emissions of greenhouse gasses, when compared with other fuels. Thus minimising the effect on Climate Change, and making a major contribution to the UK target for reduction of these emissions in the coming decade.

As you may have guessed; I am employed in the Nuclear Industry, and you may form the view that my opinions are biased; whilst I would accept this to some extent, as a professional Engineer that has worked previously in both the steel, and coal industries, I believe that my views are based on an objective analysis of the situation from a UK perspective

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On a slightly different note, for some years now I have been concerned about the continuous import from France of 2000Mw of energy via the cross channel link.

The original concept for this link envisaged power flowing in both directions at different times of day to meet peak demands, however, I'm sure you can easily confirm that since the link was commissioned > 95% of the use has been import to the UK.

Why would we as a country want to allow this to continue? This is a continuous net outflow of cash from the UK. Whilst I understand that the French Generators can bid into our market, and to stop them directly would be anti European, anti competitive, surely if the UK were to build an new 2000Mw power Station (maybe Nuclear? as the energy from France is certainly Nuclear generated), as a country we would benefit from, increased employment during construction, and operation, and a resultant reduction in Social Security costs, and there would be significant financial benefits to UK Plc.

Please consider the above submission carefully. I would be happy to develop these views to the review, either in writing, or in person if necessary.

Thank you for your time

Yours faithfully,

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