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Address: Supporters of Nuclear Energy, 45 Church Way,

Sanderstead, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 0JU

SONE is registered as a private limited company No. 3576562 www.sone.org.uk

Web-site www.sone.org.uk E.mail: sec@sone.org.uk



Nuclear - The green route to secure and reliable power

Sone is a voluntary organisation of individuals
who are seeking to ensure that nuclear power is
developed as rapidly as possible to fill the gap
opening up in electricity supplies through the
progressive closure of existing generating capacity.

Gearing up for nuclear development

After 10 years' campaigning,
SONE has entered a new phase
in its operations. Its objective now
is to secure the earliest possible
development of nuclear power following the
Government's formal welcome of a nuclear future in its Energy
White Paper of January 2008.

This document accepted SONE's long-standing arguments that:

- nuclear energy is a safe, reliable, economic and environmentally desirable way of providing electricity
- nuclear energy is, on present knowledge, essential to the world's continued development if serious climatic changes are to be avoided.

After many years' procrastination, there is now a great urgency for nuclear's development. This stems from four national needs to:

- make our electricity supplies more secure by reducing the use of increasingly imported and expensive fossil fuels
- 2. fill as soon as possible the gap opening up in our electricity supplies through the closure of roughly a third of our generating capacity in the form of ageing coal and nuclear power stations over the next 10-15 years
- 3. make the nation more competitive in world markets because nuclear is now the cheapest source of electricity available
- meet our international commitments to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions since nuclear power stations emit next to no greenhouse gases.

SONE believes this is best done through an open and honest dialogue with the public, setting out the facts of the case and answering queries. This is the way best to help to meet the national and international needs set out above.

Honest debate

SONE does not pretend that nuclear power is the answer to all the nation's energy and environmental prayers. There is no panacea in sight, given our heavy reliance on fossil fuels for heating, lighting and propulsion, though nuclear's benefits from clean, reliable and economic power could be applied more widely if progressively we moved to all-electric homes and vehicles.

It is therefore crucial at this time to focus on what nuclear can achieve over the first half of the 21st Century, pending conceivably the development of new forms of energy or nuclear advances, for example into nuclear fusion. That is why SONE's efforts are directed to getting the first of a new generation of nuclear power stations delivering electricity to the grid within 10 years.

In doing so, its aim will be to keep so-called alternatives in perspective. As well as greater energy efficiency, SONE is strongly in favour of renewable sources of energy, combined heat and power (CHP) and carbon sequestration and storage (CCS) where they satisfy the same criteria as nuclear – clean, competitive, safe and reliable. But it takes the widely shared view that, as things stand, these sources simply do not measure up to those criteria and that it would be highly dangerous to rely on them.

In seeking to facilitate nuclear's development, SONE also intends, as in the past, to try to improve public understanding of such things as nuclear's matchless record of safe operation in the UK and its long experience of the management of nuclear waste and decommissioning.

Membership benefits

As a member of SONE you will receive the following benefits:

- promotion of the case for the urgent development of nuclear energy as one important element in future power supplies
- regular news updates through SONE's website and commentary from SONE's two monthly publications its Newsletter and Nuclear Issues
- briefings by the Nuclear Industry Association (NIA) and World Nuclear Association (WNA) on nuclear developments at home and overseas
- presentations by specialists on topics and issues that impact on the nuclear industry and organised visits to energy sites
- opportunity to influence SONE's strategic direction and programme and to elect its officers.

For more information visit us at: WWW.SONE.org.uk

We invite you to join us in promoting the development of a new nuclear power programme in the knowledge that, without secure and competitive energy supplies when they are needed, we cannot maintain our people in work, our prosperity or lifestyle or generate the resources needed to protect the environment.

If you want to be part of the movement behind the development of a sensible energy policy incorporating a nuclear future, please complete the Supporters' application form on the other side of this page and return it, with your cheque or completed standing order, to the address given.