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Hinkley INQUIRER

The only complete and clear account

Hinkley Cancer Cluster Revealed

A report prepared by Somerset Health Authority, and submitted to the Inquiry just before Christmas, revealed for the first time a substantially higher incidence of childhood leukaemia in the area round Hinkley Point.

During the whole study period (1959-86), there were 22 cases of leukaemia (and the associated illness non-Hodgkin's lymphoma) in people under 25 within a 12.5 kilometre radius from Hinkley Point. Only 11 would have been expected on national trends.

More crucially, in the 10 years 1964-73 there were 14 (mostly fatal) young? ang leukaemia cases where only four would have been expected. Hinkley A nuclear power station started operation in 1965.

The report's authors - Cameron Bowie, Director of Community Medicine, and statistician Paul Ewings - used exactly the same methodology which had revealed leukaemia clusters round the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Cumbria and the Dounreay experimental site in Scotland.

Commenting on their findings, Dr. Bowie said: "There does seem to be a link between young leukaemia and nuclear power stations. But if it was radition, it would have had to have been, for Hinkley Point, an enormous leak."

The CEGB seized on this remark immediately to deny that any such leak had occurred. Dr. Richard Taylor, the Board's Head of Health and Safety Strategy, also told the Inquiry on Day 48 that there was no logical connection between the higher incidence of leukaemia found at various nuclear sites and the widely varying but low levels of radioactive discharges. He added that other explanations, such as a viral cause, were still being investigated.

The Health Authority report also showed a 24% higher rate of adult leukaemia throughout its catchment area, confirming earlier findings. No clear explanation has been found for this either.

* *Leukaemia Incidence in Somerset* (December 1988) is available from Somerset Health Authority, County Hall, Taunton, at public libraries in the county and is also Inquiry document S1889.

Marshalling The Forces

Marshall: Inquirer Fan.

It's not so much that the atmosphere was electric. Just a certain buzz in the air: a surprise visit, from Lord Marshall, to the Inquiry and environs. You could trace his progress through Cannington from the bobbing and weaving of his staff, all in a flutter.

He had been invited to drop into the Stop Hinkley Centre office to witness that not only are we well organised, we are reasonable humans. And vice versa, we hope.

"I'm the enemy," he introduced himself comfortably, ducking under the door lintel. He immediately remarked it was clear that there was more opposition here than in previous inquiries. "You're more organised," he said, equivocally.

The *South Wales Women's Support Group* made their protest against Marshall's role in mining communities by exiting from the office. The *Inquirer* took the opportunity to ask him a few questions.

Was he impressed by the record number of registered objectors, at over 21,000 already? "The number itself is impressive," Marshall agreed. And then launched into one of his well known shaggy dog stories about a hydro-electric scheme in Wales, that sufficed to fill the remainder of the allotted time. It's a style of communication not unfamiliar to those who have been trying to get some answers out of other CEGB chaps recently.

IN THIS ISSUE

CEGB's health and safety case. Objectors' questions. Hinkley leukaemia links.

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Crush At Cannington

Over 200 people packed the Inquiry hall to overflowing for the Cannington evening meeting on January 18. Extra seating had to be arranged.

It was amazing how carefully and effectively people expressed their views, breaking through the stilted and formal nature of the proceedings. Their strength of feeling leapt from every page of their statements. People also spoke with extraordinary confidence, aware that opinion in the area has been steadily moving against the proposed power station.

Local polls

Both David Hatherley and Sian Pumfrey gave details of a survey of Cannington residents which showed 355 people against Hinkley C and 238 in favour. This was a "remarkable finding" in a village where 120 people worked at Hinkley Point, Hatherley said.

Hatherley described a 1987 exercise in which he and a team of local people had tried to deliver a letter to everybody within the Hinkley evacuation area as fast as possible. Using similar numbers to the complement of Bridgwater police station, it had taken them over two hours. And that was without trying to find or move people. The plans were "woefully inadequate", he said.

He also asked, in relation to the proposed new road scheduled to go through the grounds of Brymore School outside Cannington: "How many parents would send children to a school where nuclear waste is to be transported through the grounds?"

Strong opposition

James Murphy, representing Stogursey Parish Council (the nearest village to Hinkley Point), said the parish opposed the C station under all five topics. "The strength of opposition in the village to Hinkley C is very considerable," he said.

Judith Fursland, who has lived in the area for 35 years, gave a lengthy and moving description of how basic animal and human activity, symbolised by the tiny shrew, poses no threat compared with the awesome disturbance of the nuclear industry.

Maureen Randall, of *Combwich Residents' Environmental Concern*, said that CEGB attempts to purchase land compulsorily in the village (for bringing through heavy loads for Hinkley C) were intimidatory and heavy-handed. The village, also a place where many Hinkley workers live, was now very unhappy about the proposed power station.

Massive intrusion

Penny Cross quizzed Sam Goddard on the increased traffic (up to 4,500 extra vehicle movements per day for about 2½ years) which Hinkley C would generate, and the inadequacy of existing roads. She announced she had given up smoking for her own health, and hoped the CEGB would give up Hinkley C for everybody's health.

Mr. Brookfield (Cannington resident for 36 years) won repeated applause when he said that many people were cynical that, despite the evidence of opposition, the dice had already been cast in favour of the plan. Richard Newington, who works on the farm next to Hinkley Point, said that Hinkley C would be a "massive intrusion on the landscape".

Three Kilometre Island?

Rosemary Walker quoted her local Emergency Planning Officer who had said that "emergency plans (in the unlikely event of an accident occurring which would be a hazard to the public) are designed to cater for the worst technically feasible accident, and to afford protection out to a radius of three kilometres from the Power Station".

"Three kilometres for the worst technically feasible accident?" she said. "After Chernobyl? He made this comment only nine months ago, with the added reassurance that this was double the distance considered necessary by the CEGB and the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate... So how can we feel confident and secure under their protection?"

Ken Dyer, Vice Chairman of *Cannington Parish Council*, was the only voice heard in favour of the proposal for its contribution to the local economy and employment.

Failure

Frank Glasgow is a retired engineer with a thorough knowledge of power stations. He summarised his useful proof of evidence for the evening meeting. He covered accidents arising from operator failure, plant failure, a combination of the two, and also structural failure through external forces.

Handful of dust

Jenny Pidcock rounded off her statement with a quote from *Sarcophagus*, the play by Vladimir Gubaryev, the Science Editor of *PRAVDA* and the first Russian journalist on the scene at Chernobyl:

"The pyramids of the Pharoahs have been there for a mere 5,000 years. But, to contain the radiation, your nuclear pyramid must remain for at least a hundred thousand years.

"That's some monument to leave to our descendants, isn't it?"

Board Puts Safety Case

All traces of holiday cheer swiftly evaporated as the CEGB's witnesses kicked off after the break with their evidence on health and safety.

First to appear was Richard Taylor, head of the CEGB's Health and Safety Strategy team, to talk about the safety criteria of the planned PWR.

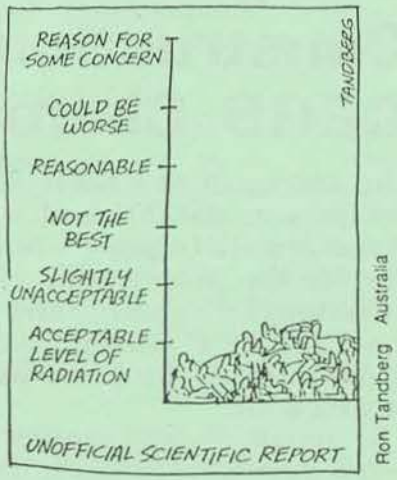
Since Sizewell

Since the decision to build the Sizewell PWR, there have been three developments in the safety case, according to Taylor. Firstly, radiation risk estimates are likely to be revised by the International Commission for Radiological Protection (ICRP). The estimate of risk to the public from radiation may be increased by a factor of five times the current ICRP limit, said Taylor. And in the view of the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB), risk estimates for fatal cancer may be revised upwards by a factor of about three.

Leukaemia: no problem

Secondly, there has been new evidence on leukaemia clusters. Taylor dismissed this. "It is extremely unlikely that a causal relationship exists between discharges from nucler power stations and leukaemia clusters," he said.

Thirdly, the Health and Safety Executive have published their report "Tolerability of Risk" (February 1988). The CEGB agrees with most of its judgements - that the risk of death to workers should not exceed one in a thousand per year. At Hinkley C the risk would be about one in 5,600.



Leukaemia Links

The first crack of the whip at questioning Taylor - the CEGB's health and safety man - went to SCAR, the *Severnside Campaign against Radiation.*

SCAR were represented by counsel Lynnette Warren, who pressed Taylor to agree that there have been excesses of leukaemia near Sellafield, Dounreay, Hinkley Point, Burghfield and Aldermaston.

Complacent

She won his much qualified agreement, but Taylor proved to be perhaps the most complacent and verbose CEGB witness to date. He was especially keen to talk about the latest theory that a virus - brought into islated rural communities by power station workers - could be causing leukaemia.

Yet Warren got Taylor to admit that no virus has been identified, that the excesses of leukaemia at Dounreay occurred 20 years after the plant started operation, and that most of the children who developed leukaemia near Sellafield were from families which had moved into the area and so were not "indigenous".

As for the excesses at Aldermaston and Burghfield, Taylor had to agree that these are not isolated communities.

Burden of proof

Warren put to him the point made by Professor Bobrow, who led the recent COMARE inquiry: "Bobrow has said that the burden of proof has shifted. The leukaemia cases must be assumed to be connected with the nuclear power stations until proven otherwise. Are the CEGB willing to take on that burden?"

"The answer is no," Taylor eventually responded, so setting the CEGB apart from the findings of the COMARE report.

Warren tried repeatedly to get Taylor to say what number of deaths from childhood leukaemia would be considered unacceptable by the CEGB. "If there were hundreds of children who were dying," replied Taylor, "it would quite clearly be (unacceptable)."

Safety Costs Money

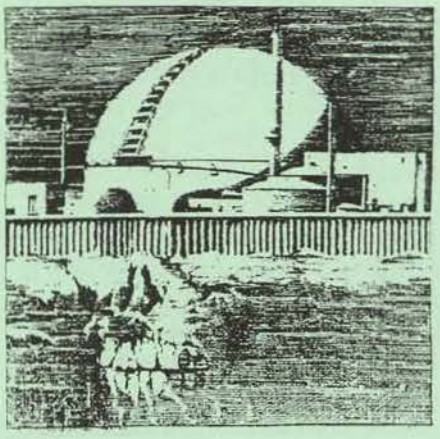
Crispin Aubrey of *Stop Hinkley Expansion* questioned Taylor about the effects that privatisation could have on safety.

Nuclear safety measures can be very expensive, said Aubrey: "safety costs money," Taylor agreed. Under privatisation, then, suggested Aubrey, "when profit will become an important motive... safety will inevitably suffer?" Taylor replied that under the privatised National Power "there will be the same imperative to ensure safety at all times."

Aubrey asked if Taylor was aware that people who work in the industry are very concerned that safety standards will drop under privatisation. But Taylor replied that "this is not a view that I have had canvassed to me, I don't know why."

Aubrey also put it to the witness that the ICRP is a conservative and self-perpetuating club.

Taylor On The Hop



Jill Sutcliffe pursued safety witness Richard Taylor with the tenacity of a terrier during Week 13, causing him visible embarrassment.

First, she told him about an earthquake he knew nothing of. It happened in 1580 with a strength of 0.4g according to the British Geological Survey.

She pointed out some other glaring gaps in the CEGB case. Why hadn't the CEGB looked at the health picture around PWRs in America, France and Japan? At this point the Inspector appeared clearly impressed.

Whole picture

She also asked for information about the whole health picture for the nuclear industry and its support industries in the fuel cycle.

As scientific evidence mounts and "safe" levels of exposure to radiation are reduced, said Sutcliffe, people are re-classified into an area of risk exposure which they were not prepared for, and "the carpet is pulled from under their feet."

When asked about the aetiology of childhood leukaemia, Taylor said, "there is no known cause so far as I am aware of childhood leukaemia."

Sutcliffe was warmly applauded.

Floral Tribute

On Day 45, the Inspector thanked "Mr. Aubrey and his family" for providing the regular jars of flowers which appear on his table each week. "All of us have found that adds to the tone of the proceedings," he said.

It Couldn't Happen Here

An accident "beyond the design base" of Hinkley C was not impossible, but its probability was so low that for all practical purposes it could be discounted, Dr. Taylor (CEGB 9) told the Inquiry on Day 48. He was responding to questions from Mr. Milner, representing the *Corsortium of Opposing Local Authorities.*

On recent advice from the National Radiological Protection Board which increased the risk estimates for cancer for both the public and nuclear workers, Taylor said that risk estimates were "in a state of flux". But he considered there was no need for a change of practice within the CEGB.

On Chernobyl, Taylor said that "if we thought that a Chernobyl-type accident could happen at Hinkley C, we wouldn't consider it."

In answer to questions from Mr. Hanson, representing the *Electrical Power Engineers Association*, Dr. Taylor said that a new "Human Factors Bureau" was being set up within his department.

Dr. Taylor was cross-examined for the whole of Week 13 by 14 individuals and organisations.

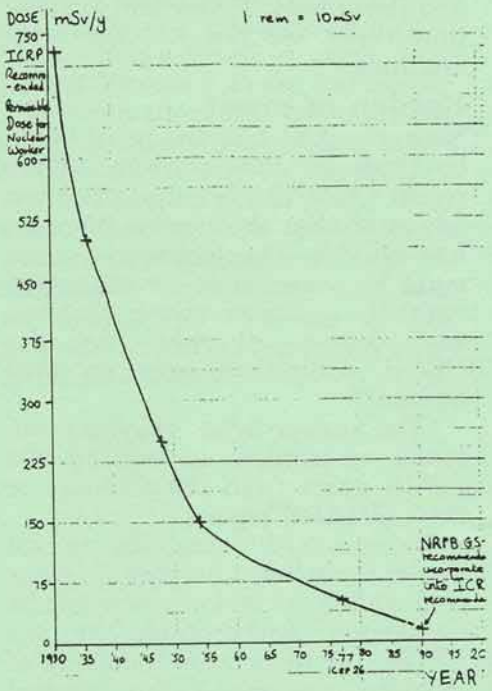
Dangers Dispute

David Gillam of the *Irish Sea Project* also questioned Taylor, the CEGB's health witness, chiefly on the continuing uncertainty about what level of radiation is dangerous.

"There is evidence to show that there should be a 100- to 200-fold reduction" in the allowed dose, Gillam told the *Inquirer*. "The CEGB could not operate within such limits, and Taylor wouldn't agree that there should be such a change. He would agree to a three- to five-fold revision - which is now underway from the ICRP (International Commission for Radiological Protection)."

NRPB "Wrong"

Gillam also quizzed Taylor on the levels of acceptable risks as recommended by the National Radiological Protection Board. But Taylor answered that he thought that NRPB had "got that wrong".



The permissible dose for nuclear workers has plummeted dramatically since 1930 (there has been a 50-fold change in 50 years), due to increased understanding of the dangers combined with public perception of what is acceptable.

Hasty On Safety

As the CEGB tried to squeeze its entire safety case into a fortnight, claiming the PWR has been pronounced safe at Sizewell, Brian Rome *(Conservation Society)* put it to Taylor that at Sizewell the CEGB's safety case was far from complete.

According to Sir Frank Layfield's report, Rome quoted, "the examination of safety was not exhaustive ... much work remains to be done ... the design was incomplete and not yet susceptible of a final assessment of its safety."

Sabotage

Rome also complained that the subject of war and sabotage has been "totally ignored" in the CEGB's safety case. "The whole of England is downwind of the Hinkley site," Rome pointed out. Eventually Taylor said: "I accept that sabotage is important."

Rome turned to the chances of accident, and showed up the CEGB's methods as leaky in the light of experience. At Salem (a Westinghouse PWR) in 1983, said Rome, "the double circuit breakers failed twice ... This was supposed to be a one in one million occurrence ... and yet it occurred twice in three days."

Only a few weeks ago the Lockerbie accident killed 270 people. Yet this kind of accident "was assumed to be a one in 1,000 per annum chance only a few years ago," said Rome. And it was probably caused by sabotage.

Design And Construction: CEGB Claims

The safety of the PWR design was established at the Sizewell Inquiry - and despite the intervening Chernobyl disaster - and the Hinkley C safety case is essentially the same as at Sizewell.

So argued Brian George in the second week after New Year. He is responsible for the design and construction of Sizewell B, Hinkley C and any future PWRs.

Sizewell replica

The Hinkley C plant would be a replica of the Sizewell PWR, with the exception of some changes to suit the Hinkley site - but these changes do not affect safety, said George.

Acceptable risks

The risk of aircraft crashing on the station is so low that there is no "need for design provisions to protect the station," said George.

As for Chernobyl, the plant was of an unsafe design which would not be licensed here. "At the Sizewell Inquiry the CEGB's evidence was that, in practical terms, severe accidents would not occur in the proposed PWR," said George. "Nothing has emerged from the Chernobyl accident to cause the CEGB to alter that conclusion."

No Smoke

The CEGB's safety witness Brian George - responsible for constructing PWRs - was taken to task by a number of objectors on Days 52 and 53.

Mr. Milner of COLA *(Consortium of Opposing Local Authorities)* raised the recent series of "incredible" but nonetheless real disasters. "Five cases of cross-wiring have been found in Boeing 757s," he pointed out.

"We are not saying that errors are not possible," replied George, but that "the possibility of errors that go undetected is extremely remote."

Fire, fire!

When Milner asked for the CEGB's views on the proofs of evidence submitted to the Inquiry by Somerset Chief Fire Officer Nigel Musselwhite, George admitted that the Board is seeking a meeting with Musselwhite. He "has obviously not got enough information ...

Sabotage

Danielle Grunberg of *Stop Hinkley Expansion* later pressed George on why he didn't mention sabotage and war risks in his evidence.

"Sabotage is one of those things that we are not prepared to discuss," replied George. "It is dealt with through a direct route ... Many of the defences that we build into a plant for other hazards would be equally effective against a terrorist attack."

She also asked him about the flooding of the turbine hall at Hinkley A in 1980: could it happen again at Hinkley C? George said he couldn't guarantee it wouldn't happen again, but that "there will be no flooding that will cause a safety hazard."

Catastrophies

Dr. Richard Webb, a nuclear expert from the United States, quizzed Brian George about a series of possible "catastrophic" reactor accidents in a PWR.

He referred to his own 1984 report "Catastrophic Nuclear Accident Hazards - a Warning to Europe", written in the aftermath of Chernobyl, which foresaw the possibility of a million square kilometres of land being contaminated.

"All these different mechanisms have the potential for a near full release of fission products and plutonium into the atmosphere," he suggested. George described Webbb's scenarios as "extreme hypotheses ... which have been explored in great depth."

George added that he had "quite considerable faith in the broad range of technical experts that exist both in the Board and in the international community."

In answer to questions from the Inspector, George said that the Hinkley and Sizewell PWRs would be the only ones in the world to have an emergency shutdown system using boric acid.

Radiation Risk

Radiation risks from a Hinkley PWR would be the same as those from Sizewell - and these have already been pronounced acceptable by Sir Frank Layfield's report.

This was the tack taken by David Western, manager of the Emergency Planning and Public Inquiries Group within the CEGB's Health Physics Section.

"I have shown that Hinkley C would give an annual dose of only about 0.9% of the average individual annual background dose, and it would add only a further 0.8 parts per million to the collective dose from radiation of natural origin," argued Western.

Accidents happen

He then described the consequences of possible- and impossible-accidents at a C station. Some events are so unlikely that the designer is not required to consider them in designing the PWR. These are "outside the design basis". The CEGB's position on these was argued at Sizewell and hasn't changed.

Gobbledegook

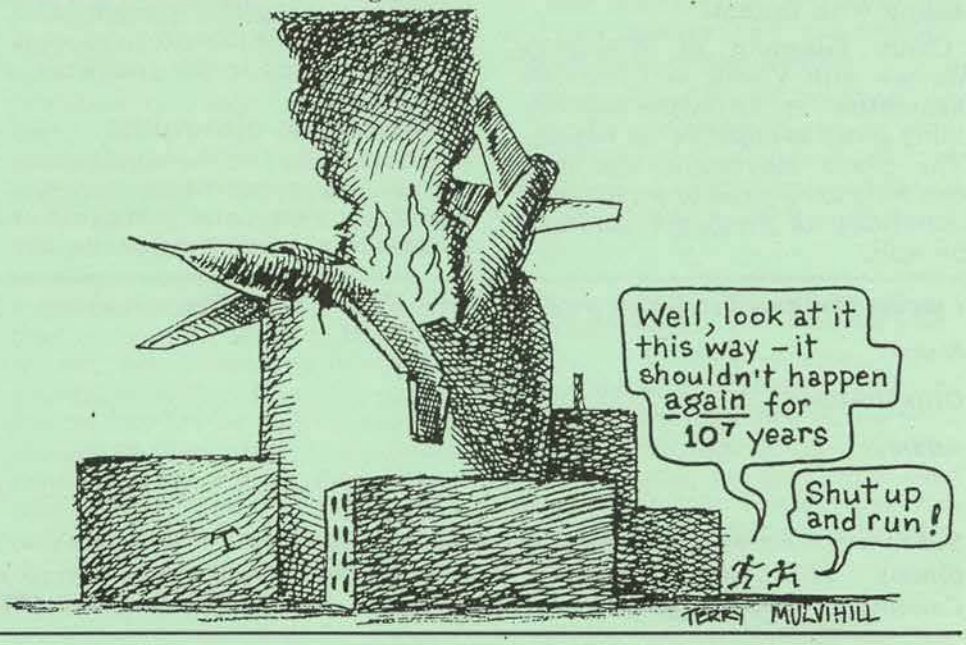
On Day 49, Geoffrey Bright of *Cwmbran Anti-Nuclear Group South Wales*, said he was concerned that deliberately confusing terminology was being used to put off "semi-numerates" such as himself.

He queried the language and the expressions that Taylor (CEGB) used in his proof: "Now I know very well that ten to the minus six is normally expressed as one in a million, and it usually seems to me that, in a literary document such as this, it is a much more useful way of saying it than using a mathematical expression".

Bright queried whether The Tolerability of Risk document produced by the Health and Safety Executive had been circulated to the public at large and added: "When we do, hopefully, get a constructive response from the general public this could have a considerable effect on what is then regarded as a tolerable situation."

Taylor admitted that: "If people said they would not accept a risk greater than one in a hundred million or one in a thousand million then clearly it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to build a nuclear power station which will achieve that level of risk."

"Critical Decision: Should Britain Buy the Pressurised Water Reactor?" is a report on the Sizewell Inquiry by *Friends of the Earth*. Copies are now available at £1 (reduced from £2.50) from The Energy Campaign, Friends of the Earth, 26-28 Underwood St., London N1 7JQ. Tel: 01 490 1555. (Cheques payable to Friends of the Earth Ltd.)



"Accidents with consequences such as those like Chernobyl are not acceptable and will not happen." Richard Taylor, CEGB.

Counting The Costs

In the hectic week before Christmas, objectors continued to pursue their case with remarkable energy.

Steven Thomas for *Friends of the Earth* gave evidence to show that the PWR would only be producing electricity for 60% of the year, which would put the price of nuclear electricity up by nearly 20%. The CEGB claims a Hinkley C station would be in action for 75% of the time.

Women's work

Women from four member organisations of the *International Wages for Housework Campaign* also put their concerns to the Inquiry. "We have shown the consequences for women in unwaged work - such as health care - of nuclear power", Nina Lopez-Jones of the *Wages for Housework Campaign* told the *Inquirer*.

Wilmette Brown from *Black Women for Wages for Housework* says that "two thirds of women are opposed to nuclear power. It's to do with women's work: it's down to women to do the housework of health."

Racism and disability

"Black working class communities are disproportionately affected by Hinkley C," argues Brown. "When you are poor, your immune system is undermined - because you are living on benefit, under stress and dealing with racism."

Claire Glasman of *Winvisible* (Women with Visible and Invisible Disabilities), spoke for the only disability group to object at the Inquiry. "The peace movement has only been able to respond to people with disabilities as gruesome victims," she said.

Greenham

Sarah Hipperson represented the *Yellow Gate Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp*. She is a 61-year-old anti-nuclear activist, former magistrate, midwife and district nurse. Suzie Fleming came from *Bristol Women's Peace Collective*.

Between them they gave a statement entitled "Refusing Nuclear Housework: Women's Case Against the Building of Hinkley C." They argue that nuclear power turns women into "nuclear workers in the community" by obliging them to do the unwaged physical and emotional housework of coping with chronic or fatal illnesses.

Constant worry

Women also have to deal with constant worry and fear of nuclear hazards, say the group, as well as organising protective measures - from improving family diet, to demanding radiation monitoring by local councils and schools, to resettling in other neighbourhoods.

Their opposition to the PWR is part of their campaign for women's work to be counted and compensated. The Inquiry hall was unusually well occupied by their supporters.

The women have been asking that the Inquiry should come to Bristol for a special session, and they want people to write in support of their demand to the Inspector.

Problematic plutonium

The *Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament* also appeared in the pre-Christmas week - and then again in a special evening session as the Inquiry opened again in January.

Their aim was to press the question of plutonium: why won't the Department of Energy give information on its quantity and safeguarding, they wanted to know?

Dr. Ross Hesketh, who presented evidence for *CND*, argued that the safeguards against military use of plutonium produced in Britain's civil nuclear reactors are inadequate. His colleague, Dr. Keith Barnham of Imperial College, claimed that two to three tonnes of plutonium from British civil nuclear reactors - enough for over 400 warheads - is unaccounted for.

Hesketh asked that consent for the PWR should be withheld until nuclear stations and the materials which come and go from them are put under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards. Fuel from Hinkley C should not be reprocessed, and all reprocessing of civil nuclear fuel should stop, he said.

Working Out The Inquiry

- A request by objector Robert Green, and his witness Richard Webb, for evidence under Topic 2 to be given on oath, was rejected by the Inspector. Green argued that "the public needs some moral power to restrain the nuclear industry from lying with impunity."

- *Stop Hinkley Expansion* objected to the fact that compulsory purchase orders had been issued on front gardens in the village of Combwich (for bringing through reactor parts for Hinkley C) and on land for new roads to take the expected construction traffic. Crispin Aubrey argued that these were premature and prejudicial to the Inquiry. The Inspector said he wouldn't be prejudiced.

- The Inspector has been much tougher since Christmas about the length of people's cross-

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examination. After several objectors were cut short before they'd finished their list of questions during Week 13, protests were made at the opening of the following week's session. Among other points, it was stressed how hard it is to judge the time that *answers* will take. The Inspector has already said he wants a time estimate and a list of subject areas to be covered from each cross-examiner.

- The Secretariat is going to stop sending advance Inquiry programmes to registered participants on February 10 unless they specifically ask for them. A form is available from the office.
- Responding to debate at the Inquiry about the "greenhouse effect", the Inspector has asked for "evidence on the scientific aspects" from the *Department of the Environment.*
- The start of Topic 2, which has put the spotlight on safety issues, has also ushered in two new "expert assessors" to sit alongside the Inspector. They are Dr. Kenneth Duncan, a former Assistant Director at the National Radiological Protection Board, whose expertise is radiobiology, and Professor Hugh Simpson, Weir Professor in Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics at Strathclyde University, whose expertise is safety.

Short Circuit

Keeping up with the Inquiry Schedule has proved too much for the BBCTV "Points West" regional news programme, which has been assiduously following the event. Its regular motif recording the Inquiry day in calendar style behind the reporter has been consistently inaccurate since Christmas.

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Surprise visitor Lord Marshall broke the record for most extravagant transport to the Inquiry. He arrived in a large custom-built black limousine with the name Coleman Milne Grosvenor on the back and registration no. MMO 261X. (Up to that point the record was held by Mr. Milner, one of the COLA barristers, with a light brown Rolls Royce.)

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What of the risks of military aircraft crashing on a nuclear site - especially in the light of recent "impossible" disasters? This question is on the lips of various objectors, and even as the safety arguments began the Inquiry was deafened by low flying jets roaring overhead. But why worry? After all, such risks are all being thoroughly calculated by a computer nicknamed PRANG.

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News From Stop Hinkley Centre

Jill Sutcliffe has been in the Inquiry hot seat: these are her notes and recommendations for fellow objectors:

A desire to ask particular questions of Dr. Taylor, CEGB 8 witness, took me from behind the scenes at the Inquiry to cross-examination in the hall on Friday, January 13. A rather ominous date.

Before appearing

1. *Preparation.* Obviously you need to read the proof, associated proofs, supporting documents and, where possible, the transcripts for the days the witness has been giving evidence. The latter can be an impossibility due to the post: by last Friday no one away from the Inquiry had yet received any transcripts for that week. Keeping up to date can help to avoid repetition of areas that have already been covered.

2. *Questions.* These can be either the short, sharp type requiring "straight" answers, or a series developing a point.

3. *Procedure.* Tell Keith Parker (tel: 0278 444005, ext. 128) who will put you on the programme. But cross-examination is at the *discretion of the Inspector* so it does not necessarily mean that you will appear. For example, George Pritchard, Alan Debenham and David Ross were refused the opportunity to cross-examine in December. David Ross later objected and sent a letter to C. W. Dyment, Secretary of the Council on Tribunals.

4. *Time.* This is a crucial point. You will be expected to give an estimate of how long you will take. Those of us who are not lawyers find this very hard to do. Try out your questions and make provision for some waffling/deliberately going off the point/introduction of new areas when you want to pursue the information given. David Gillham of the *Irish Sea Project* asked for eight hours, then obliged the planning timetable by agreeing to three to six. He was given his minimum three to the minute. He objected, pointing out that he only had three more questions to ask, requiring some 15 minutes and was cut off.

5. *Documents.* A list of the documents you intend to refer to needs to be handed in and any document "new" to the Inquiry (i.e. not already referenced) needs to be given an S (for supporting document) number. There are already 2,105 S documents registered ranging from the Sizewell Report (S2) to the secret Cabinet Minutes of October 1979 (S1005) to articles/cuttings.

So, your document may already be numbered and Clare Bainbridge in the Public Office can tell you what its number is, or, if it has not already been used, it will need to be lodged and given a number.

Do this in good time and with advance warning to the staff in the Public Office. Then you can hand in your list.

6. *Summary.* the Inspector appreciates a summary of what you wish to cover, but it is not mandatory. Mine said: Distribution of radionuclides; Aetiology of leukaemia; Omissions rather than emissions.

7. *Practice.* Try it out.

8. *Prior visit.* If possible, get along for a visit before you are due so that you can see the Inquiry in process.

On the day

9. *Practical things.* Keep calm! If you are on first thing or after a break, check the microphone is on and when you start to speak, check that you can be heard. Don't speak

too quickly because the shorthand writers can find that difficult, particularly if your voice is quiet or not clear. Check in at the Stop Hinkley office for a cup of tea!

10. *Help*. It does help if you can carry out your cross-examination with someone to help by handing you documents, making notes on additional points while you're concentrating on the job in hand - and to give moral support.

11. *References*. When quoting reference documents give the title/ author's name

12. *Witnesses*. They have been prepared for their appearance, their proofs have been gone through with a fine tooth comb and arguments rehearsed.

13. *Talk*. Communicate with other people and learn from them.

14. *Commitment*. It does take time, but the answers gained can help all those objecting to the construction of the PWR to show up the Board's arguments for what they are.

I did feel nervous about it and you have to work hard and fast under the pressure of the time limit. I asked for half an hour and asked 68 questions. This included following up a reference in the previous cross-examination and dealing with an issue not on my list! This meant letting some things go. The Inspector asked some questions of his own - but not in my time.

The CEGB must have been more worried about it than me as they pulled out their big gun and Lord Marshall was sitting in the Hall! I could have done with asking *him* a question or two: how long is it that you have been wined and dined by Westinghouse to take the PWR design which they cannot sell in America? Did it begin in 1973 or earlier?

Facilities For Objectors

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.

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
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.

DIARY

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

Weeks Fifteen, Sixteen and Seventeen
NB The Inquiry is not sitting on Tuesday January 24.

January 25
Procedural matters.
Mr. Western, CEGB proof 10, Potential off-site effects of radiation. Cross-examination.

January 26
Mr. Western continues.

January 27
When the cross-examination of Mr. Western finishes he will be followed by Mr. Rimington of the Health and Safety Executive, who will present evidence and be cross-examined.

Week Sixteen
January 31 and February 1
Procedural matters will be taken first on the Tuesday morning.
Mr. Rimington continues.

February 2
When the examination of Mr. Rimington finishes he will be followed by Mr. Ryder of the HSE (Nuclear Installations Inspectorate), who will present evidence and be cross-examined.

February 3
Mr. Ryder continues.

Week Seventeen

February 7
Procedural matters.
Mr. Ryder continues and will be followed by Mr. Hannaford, giving evidence and being cross-examined on HSE (NII) 3.

February 8
Mr. Hannaford continues.

February 9
Mr. Hannaford continues, followed by Dr. Clarke of the National Radiological Protection Board, who will give evidence and commence cross-examination.

February 10
Dr. Clarke, NRPB, continues.
Future programming continues with the Department of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, and Department of Transport witnesses. The third week of February sees the start of objectors' evidence.

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 proposal.

The last word

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

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GREENPEACE

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