

Hinkley INQUIRER

The only complete and clear account

Combwich: CEGB "Blunders"

The separate Public Inquiry into the compulsory purchase of land in the village of Combwich (also being heard at Cannington by Michael Barnes) ground to a halt after less than two hours on June 13.

In what the local press described as a "blunder", the *CEGB* admitted soon after the hearing started that it would actually prefer to take its heavy loads for Hinkley C along a new road across fields rather than through the main street of Combwich. It had applied for planning permission to do this.

The admission brought an angry retort from the Inspector that "we may just be beating the air" by continuing with the hearing, and an immediate request from a local resident to adjourn the session.

After a short break, the Inspector agreed to adjourn the CPO hearing until it was clear whether the local planning authority, Sedgemoor District Council, would agree to the *CEGB*'s new plan.

Farcical

This farcical end to the CPO Inquiry - before any evidence had been heard - spattered yet more egg on the *CEGB*'s face over a village whose name nobody, not even the Inspector, can yet pronounce properly, and the



Generator Transformer on Transporter by No. 22
Brookside Road, Combwich
Taken on 10 October 1960

Board would no doubt wish had never existed.

The blunder emerged during a preamble by *CEGB* barrister Robert Fookes. He was explaining why the Board had to buy land along Brookside Road in order to knock down walls and an old barn so that it could transport about 80 giant loads of PWR parts through the narrow village streets from its wharf on the River Parrett.

During this he said that the Board was in fact, because of local opposition, now keener on an alternative route across fields from its wharf to the main Hinkley road. They had applied for planning permission to build this road to Sedgemoor Council in May, although the

application had been somewhat delayed because they hadn't paid the full fee.

"If they were to grant permission the whole of these proceedings would be useless, wouldn't they?" asked the Inspector. "I think it highly unlikely that they will," said Fookes.

Local reaction

Nonetheless, the Inspector pursued the point, and it was opened up by a Mr. Goodall and then Gerard Ryan for *COLA*, which also opposed the CPOs. Goodall thought that Sedgemoor would grant permission.

Fookes cannot have endeared himself to Combwich residents by also saying that this new application was being made "really as much as

IN THIS ISSUE

CEGB on local and environmental issues. Hinkley C an eyesore?
Firefighters join objectors. Bristol details.

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anything to test local reaction". A Mr. Felstead from the parish council said that he understood there were already 60 objections to the new route.

Mr. Goodall capped the *CEGB*'s embarrassment by asking the Inspector to compensate for the costs of local people "which have been thrown away by the unreasonable conduct of the *CEGB* in this matter."

Pronunciation note: Comwich is pronounced "Cumidge".

Burning Issues

On Day 125, David Matthews (FBU 2), National Health and Safety Officer of the Fire Brigades Union, gave evidence. He was supported by John Large of Large and Associates.

Matthews, whose union represents some 46,000 members, said he himself was an ex-firefighter from West Yorkshire. He pointed out that any firefighter in the UK could be called to respond to a radiation accident. The *FBU* had to "negotiate conditions of service which safeguard the health and safety of all firefighters, irrespective of their brigade location."

This had been "a major consideration", he said, when members of the *FBU*'s Chernobyl Joint Working Group had agreed the revised radiation dose limits applicable to the entire fire service personnel. He added that there was "a distinct difference between firemen and firewomen with regard to dose limits."

Ban on expansion

"The Chernobyl accident has shown," he said, "that each nuclear power station must have in its immediate vicinity a fully-staffed fire station, with whole-time firefighters."

Matthews referred to a number of emergency resolutions moved by *FBU* branches in 1986, after the Chernobyl accident. These included the phasing out of all present nuclear plants and installations and a ban on all further expansion of the nuclear industry in the UK, including any proposed nuclear waste dumping sites.

Matthews concluded that "in the event of a nuclear accident at the proposed Hinkley C PWR site, the fire service and individual firefighters, whilst doing everything in their power, will be unable to provide the levels of protection and rescue so

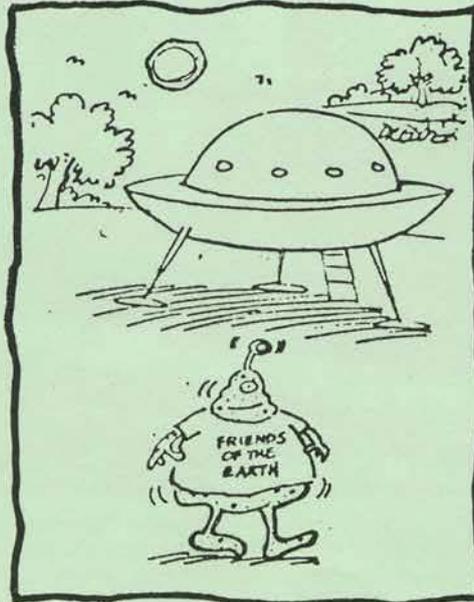
clearly expected of them by the public at large."

Cross-examined by Lord Silsoe (*CEGB*) in an unusually gritty mood, Matthews defended himself strongly.

Badly trained

"Was it part of his evidence," Silsoe asked, "that relations between the *CEGB* and the *Somerset Fire Brigade* were unsatisfactory?" "The main Chernobyl Group Report, ratified last week by our Minister and the government, acknowledged... that the firefighters were inadequately trained to deal with nuclear accidents," Matthews replied. "It has to be said that this applies to the UK, which would cover Somerset."

John Large pointed to the dichotomy between the *CEGB* and firefighters on acceptable dose limits: "The firefighters clearly distinguish between female and male firefighters, whereas the *CEGB*... do not."



"The kernel of our evidence," Matthews stressed, "is that the *CEGB* do not provide on-site radiation levels for either a design basis accident or for a beyond design basis accident." This meant that firefighters had to rely entirely on the *CEGB* health physics monitors.

There was also confusion about dose measurements. Some instruments were calibrated in rads, some in rems, some in millisieverts. "Firefighters will jauntily go along with a World War Two survey meter," he said, "thinking it is hunky-dory, and are probably dead by the time a nuclear physicist gets to tell them what they were carrying was rubbish."

Local firefighter

Peter Addie (*Avon County Fire Brigades Union*) a fireman in Avon for 20 years, said he appeared on behalf

of his union but he was presenting his evidence as a local concerned fireman, expressing the feelings of his men at Weston-super-Mare.

Addie pointed out that in the 28 years he had been a fireman he had "never been to an exercise at a nuclear power station... or had any training from *CEGB* experts dealing with radioactive materials." On Chernobyl, Addie said that "with the levels of radiation experienced... there would be no firefighting done if we adhered to the safety guidelines laid down by the Home Office."

Unions Object

A number of trade unions and local authority councillors gave evidence at the end of Topic 4 on emergency arrangements.

The largest trade union represented so far was the 650,000-strong *National Union of Public Employees (NUPE)*, which includes the majority of ambulance drivers.

Roger Poole, *NUPE*'s Health Service National Officer, said on Day 123 that current emergency plans were "clearly inadequate", and provision should be made for wider evacuation. He made specific detailed criticisms of the existing system, including the lack of training for ambulance staff to deal with nuclear power station incidents. He could also find no evidence of *NUPE*'s large National Health Service membership, including hospitals, being involved in either planning or training.

Referred by Michael Humphries, cross-examining for the *CEGB*, to exercises involving ambulance staff, Poole pointed out that the first example (1981) involved one ambulance and the second (1986) only three vehicles. "That is not what I mean by planning for major disasters," he said.

Casualties

Poole pointed out that ambulance crews would be allowed to go to the main gate to collect casualties, but could not enter contaminated areas. If a *CEGB* employee received a serious physical injury and was also contaminated by radiation, they could not be dealt with until they had "been removed to a part of the site which the *CEGB* decide is safe for the medical people." He knew of no other industry where a "life-threatening" situation took second place.

"The CEGB cannot argue in all honesty, neither can the local health authority... that we have in place... plans which would enable the emergency services to deal adequately with an emergency... The fact of the matter is that if there was an accident at Hinkley we would live by the seat of our pants," Poole concluded.

Tony Ambrose, a medical social worker in Bristol, spoke for *Avon County Branch of NALGO (National Association of Local Government Officers)* on Day 123.

Evacuees

Social services would be expected to play a major role in dealing with evacuees after a nuclear accident, he said. "Many people will need practical help with clothes, money or temporary accommodation. They

may also need immediate emotional support to help them overcome their shock or to help them identify a dead relative."

The present plans assumed that such services could cope with an emergency whatever the scale. In fact, "the social workers who may one day be expected to implement these plans are totally unfamiliar with them and have not received any training."

Ronald Stone, an Avon County Councillor and member of its Public Protection committee, questioned whether elected representatives were being misled by the absurdly low key disaster plans. The lack of resources available to local authorities would make it difficult for them to cope. "Can we afford not to plan for the worst accident scenario?" he asked.

Emergency Evidence Ends

The end of Topic 4 saw individual objectors questioning the CEGB's ability to cope with a severe accident.

In his evidence on Day 124, *Michael Bird* suggested that local public awareness of emergency planning procedures was confused and vague, to the extent that it would seriously hinder the handling of an actual emergency. He went on to ask what would happen in the event of privatisation. Would a privatised nuclear industry be prepared to step up investment in the unremunerative activities associated with emergency planning?

Scaling up

Ivan Dixon, for *Exeter CND* (Day 124) stated that he didn't think that the CEGB's proposal to scale up their emergency plans in the event of a severe accident was feasible. "Scaling up an organisation usually brings considerable extra (and unexpected) problems of command, communications, personnel and resources". Ivan thinks that it would be better to plan for the worst case, and then implement whatever percentage of the full plan is required.

Similarly, Derek Wall of *Bath Green Party*, on Day 125, also thought that emergency arrangements should be prepared for a "maximum credible accident", allowing for human error, geological instability, terrorism, plane crashes and any unforeseen causes of a major accident.

Also on Day 125, *Rachel Baird* informed the Inquiry how she had telephoned Hinkley Point to ask

them for information on their emergency exercise assessments. She was told that such information was unavailable because it might embarrass employees named in the assessments. Such a response led Rachel to wonder what was more important - public accountability and safety or embarrassment of employees? Also, did this mean that the CEGB had something to hide?

Rumours

In her evidence on Day 125, *May Morris* questioned whether the CEGB could respond quickly enough in the event of an accident. May suggested that in the time it took them to collect the information and decide on what action to take, rumours on radio news could lead to people taking whatever action they thought best rather than waiting for advice from the police. Such an occurrence could lead to confusion and even panic.

Plans for Wales

Chris Sweeting, on Day 125, referred to a poll carried out by *Porthcawl Friends of the Earth* which showed that 92% of those questioned felt there was a need for emergency planning procedures to be set up in Gwent. He pointed to the fact that Newport, with a population of well over 100,000, is only 26 miles from Hinkley Point.

Finally, *Dr. Kitty Little* (KL 7) argued (Day 124) that the best way to avoid a serious accident at Hinkley Point would be to build a fast breeder reactor instead. She renewed her attack on the "disinformation" about radiation dangers put out by the *NRPB*.

Rome: Make Polluters Pay

The best way to deal with the "unreality" of emergency plans would be to site a nuclear plant well away from large populations, Brian Rome (CONSOC 6) told the Inquiry on Day 126.

He quoted the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate as saying in 1973 that "in the remote event of an escape of radioactivity the only effective means of controlling the exposure of the public is by the choice of site." He said a "potentially dangerous PWR" should not be built near large centres like Bristol, Cardiff and Newport.

Rome used the example of the Three Mile Island emergency to show the vast quantities of ambulances, blankets, and other equipment which would be required to deal with a serious emergency.

He recommended to the Inspector that licensing of any nuclear station should be approved by a new Emergency Planning Inspectorate, and that the European Community "polluter pays" principle should mean that all local authority costs in preparing for an accident should be reimbursed by the station owners.

Rome dedicated his evidence to "the men and women of the Somerset and Avon ambulance, fire and police services whose lives are external to nuclear Cost Accounting, whose lives and families are of no Account, and may be written off, and thus, for the sake of Hinkley C, are deemed expendable".

Return Of Wilcock

Christopher Wilcock, the tight-lipped civil servant from the Department of Energy who gave evidence and was questioned for five days under Topic 1, is due to return.

Wilcock has been invited by the Inspector to submit updated evidence on the progress of the Electricity Bill, which will privatise the industry, and "other developments in government policy" since his last appearance (October 1988).

He will appear at the Inquiry on July 20. Anybody wanting to cross-examine him should contact the Programme Officer.

"Good neighbours"

Kenneth Gammon, Head of the Generation Development Branch in the CEGB's System Planning Department (CEGB 13) spoke about site related details and local issues on Day 126.

Although the CEGB had adequate land for the construction of Hinkley C, he said, some footpaths would have to be closed. Some 3.48 hectares of the foreshore would have to be reclaimed and a new sea wall built on to the existing wall. In replacement, the Board would offer the Island Saltings to the Bridgwater Bay National Nature Reserve, and would re-establish flora and fauna on and around the C station site.

Cooling water would still be drawn from and returned to Bridgwater Bay, but the CEGB would install a reverse osmosis desalination plant either to supplement the supply from Wessex Water Authority or to produce their own independent supply. All liquid effluents would be treated, stored, discharged or removed from Hinkley Point. All present circuits, including the B station generators, would be reconnected to a new substation. The existing substation would be dismantled.

On employment, Gammon indicated that half the construction workforce would be recruited locally. During peak construction he said that ... "employment of Somerset residents could be between 1800-2500". The majority of the workforce

would live in a hostel or caravan sites, with some in local guesthouses and bed and breakfast accommodation.

The CEGB believed that the five-day working pattern, quality of hostel facilities and active management would prevent any significant social disturbance. He emphasised that the CEGB aims to act as a "good neighbour" and would provide funding if additional facilities were needed. Acoustic facilities to muffle noise would be offered to properties along the access route.

He went on to say that the construction of the C station would be substantially completed before the decommissioning of the A station.

Land Grab

Thomas Worthington, senior partner with Reading Agricultural Consultants, described the effect of the construction of Hinkley C on the surrounding agricultural area (CEGB 14).

All the land required by the CEGB, both permanently and temporarily, is farmed by Mr. C. F. Knox. He would lose 39 hectares permanently and a further 49 hectares for a period of six to eight years. Worthington felt that the loss of this land (about 25% of his whole farm and 35% of his arable acreage) would leave Mr. Knox a viable agricultural holding. But one or two men would lose their jobs and

the farm would be over-capitalised for some years.

Compensation for any loss of profits would be settled by the CEGB or the Lands Tribunal, he said. He went on to say that any land to be returned after construction of Hinkley C would have had its top and subsoil stripped and stored in low mounds on site for restoration purposes. The quality of the land to be taken is not classified amongst the highest grade.

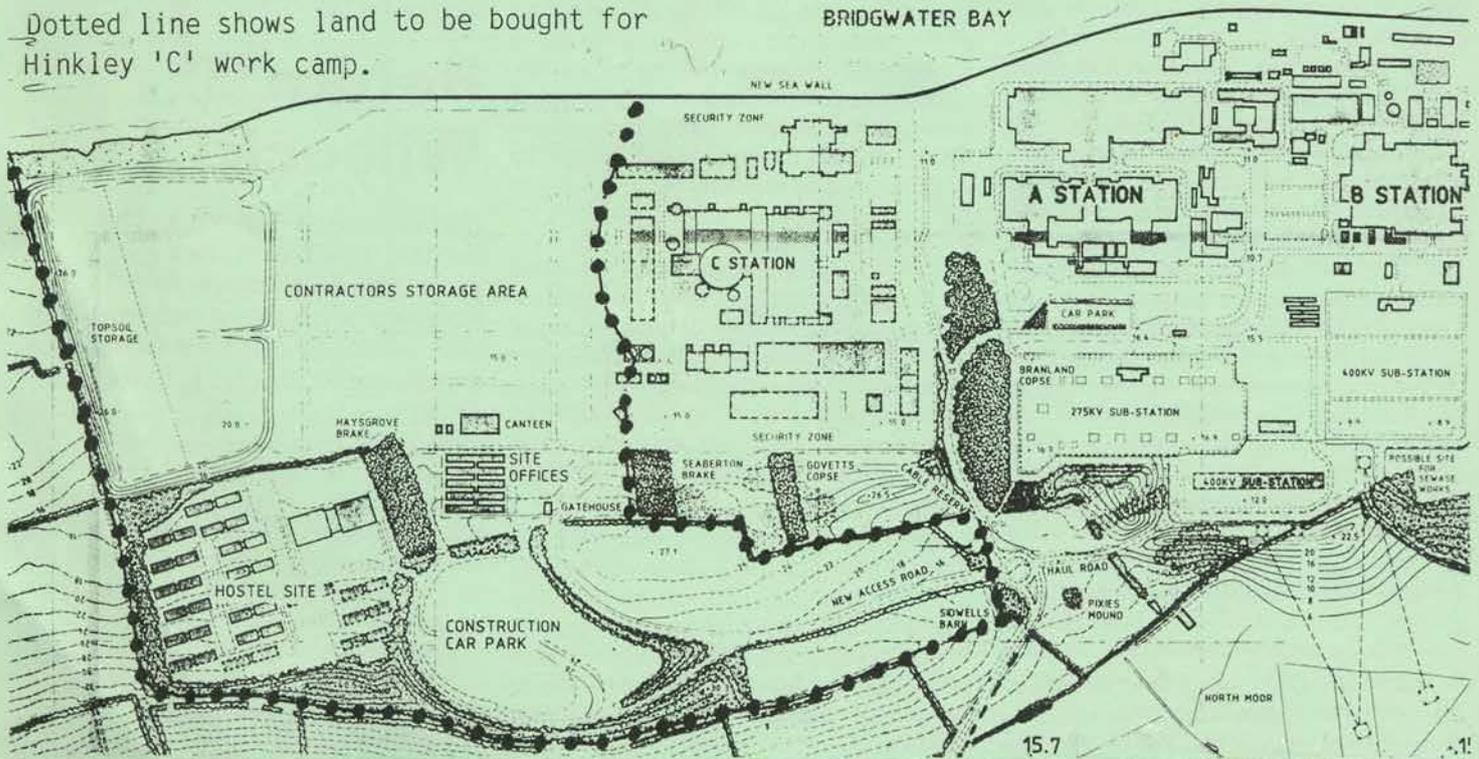
Landscaping Hinkley C

Adrian Lisney, Fellow of the Landscape Institute (CEGB 15) stated on Day 129 that the local topography at Hinkley Point lent itself to development to the West.

Existing ridges, offering natural screen mounds, could be reinforced with further groundshaping and new planting (replacing lost habitats and creating new ones) to accommodate a new station "... without significantly affecting the existing quality of the views," he said. Groundshaping and planting would be carried out on the Southern and Western boundaries of the hostel site and the Western boundary of the construction storage area.

The CEGB has agreed to establish a strip of clifftop grassland about 30 metres wide and to vegetate the ramped slope along the footpath by the proposed new sea wall. An area of marsh would be lost and existing

Dotted line shows land to be bought for Hinkley 'C' work camp.



hedgerows would be strengthened. Eleven hectares of new copse would be introduced, said Lisney, using ash, oak, field maple, blackthorn, hawthorn, privet and dog rose - ensuring greater density on the windward side.

Ivan Owen, an architect and partner in the Percy Thomas Partnership, illustrated that the landscaping, design and cladding of the buildings would make a positive contribution to the CEGB's high architectural standards into the next century.

He said the C station would be

almost identical to Sizewell B, and would be a sufficient distance from the A and B stations "... to allow expression of its own unique identity without visual conflict with its neighbours." The colour scheming would be analogous to the North Somerset landscape and the substation would complement the C station.

The residential units would be single storey, apart from the administrative and services building. "No adverse comments were made," he said, when these proposals were submitted to the Royal Fine Art Commission in July, 1987.

Gammon Grilled

Kenneth Gammon (CEGB 13) was cross-examined extensively by Gerard Ryan (COLA) during Days 126 and 127 on the local effects of building Hinkley C.

Ryan suggested that the CEGB's view was that with two power stations there already, a third didn't make much difference. "It makes less difference than it would do on a green field site," Gammon replied. "You can creepingly industrialise an area on that philosophy, can't you?" retorted Ryan.

Ryan put to Gammon that highway authorities and British Rail had been prepared to spend a lot more on mitigating the environmental effect of developments like the M25 and the Channel Tunnel link line than the CEGB was contemplating. Gammon, who revealed he was a Surrey County Councillor of 15 years' standing, said that "motorways are a very different animal".

On employment, Gammon said that local firms might well lose skilled people to Hinkley C, and might have to put their wages up, but they would benefit from the competition in the end. "That is exactly the sort of fear that is normally expressed time and time again when some large project comes into the area... We have found very few cases where any firms have actually gone out of business," he reminded Ryan that unemployment in Somerset was still about 7%. The CEGB would be spending a lot of money on promoting training schemes for school leavers.

Abuse

During a heated opening exchange on the increasingly antagonistic stance to Hinkley C adopted by Somerset County Council, Gammon said at one point: "At what stage it

becomes an abuse of the democratic process perhaps depends on which side of the table you are sitting."

Mr. Ouseley, a barrister representing the *Fairfield Estate* - which owns the land that would be used for the C station construction works - gave Gammon a fair grilling, on Day 127, particularly about the siting of the workers' hostel. Ouseley suggested that there was nothing fundamentally wrong about a hostel located a few miles from the site.

Among other things, Ouseley pointed out that up to 700 extra people would have to be evacuated in an emergency with an on-site hostel. Project Manager T. J. Enfield also agreed that during the last station building at Hinkley "there were a number of incidents, social behaviour was not as good as it should have been, and there were troubles in Stogursey."

Rare species

Dr. Janet Rowe (*Stop Hinkley Expansion*) asked a series of questions about how the flora and fauna around the site would be protected during and after construction. Most of her detailed queries were answered by Mr. G. W. Barrett of the CEGB's "environmental unit".

Rowe listed a number of rare or protected species already well established in the area. She also suggested that it was very difficult to transplant such habitats, as the CEGB intended, for example, with a strip of the coastline. "We would not carry out this operation if we did not feel very confident about its success," said Barrett.

On the possibility that the nightingales (which the CEGB says live happily near its existing power stations) might be disturbed, Gammon replied: "I go bird watching... near the end of the Heathrow runway and

it is quite amazing how species that come from remote areas can ignore 747s going over their heads."



"The slender tare may not be everybody's buzz species, but I think that the nightingale is." Dr. Janet Rowe (Day 127)

Malicious campaign

Crispin Aubrey also asked questions for *Stop Hinkley Expansion*. He produced reports to show that the effect of building power stations in Wales, for example, had been disastrous for the long-term growth of the local economy.

Gammon said that claims that local people hadn't got jobs at the Torness site in Scotland had been part of "a deliberate and malicious campaign". Half the jobs at Sizewell were going to local people.

Aubrey pointed out that the phrase "local" was very broadly defined, and that real local people tended to get the worst paid jobs. On employment when the C station was working, Aubrey calculated that the number of new local jobs might be as few as 100.

Aubrey also asked whether the £2,000 offered to Combwich parish church for its organ restoration fund was a "sweetener" to get the village to accept the C station plan.

Maureen Randal of *Combwich Residents' Environmental Concern* asked questions of Gammon submitted by villagers (Day 128). She pointed out that in an informal survey, 55% of the village was in favour of building Hinkley C. But many residents were now reconsidering because of the CEGB's proposal to re-open Combwich wharf.

"How could the CEGB say," she asked, "that the ecological effects of routing heavy loads via Combwich would be of minor significance? What about the uprooting of trees and shrubs and the demolishing of

garden walls over 200 years old?" No problem, Gammon replied, "any trees that we take down will be replaced."

Mrs. Randall also wanted to know if Gammon himself would like "all this disruption passing by your front door?" "I would have hoped," was his reply, "that... the Board's com-

pensation would have satisfied me."

Why couldn't the CEGB build a wharf at Hinkley Point as they were doing at Sizewell, she wanted to know. The coastline at Hinkley was too hostile and exposed, was Gammon's answer.

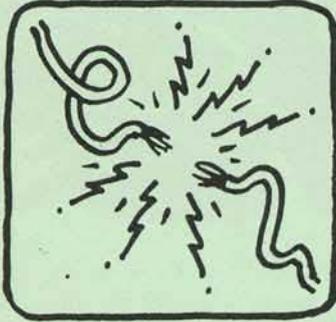
Rome wondered if Gammon, as

Head of the CEGB Generation Development branch, saw a potential for nuclear stations in this country being committed to less harmful methods of generation.

He drew attention to a number of developments: the US plants of Zimmer and Midland being converted to fossil fuel stations, a proposed nuclear station in Italy now being considered for conversion to gas or coal, and Austria, where plans exist to turn the completed but never commissioned station of Zwetendorf into the centrepiece of an amusement park.

Rome also referred to leaked documents published by the Guardian, concerning the lack of consultation by the CEGB with bodies such as the Town and Country Planning Association, Council for the Protection of Rural England, Earth Resources Research, etc.

Short Circuits



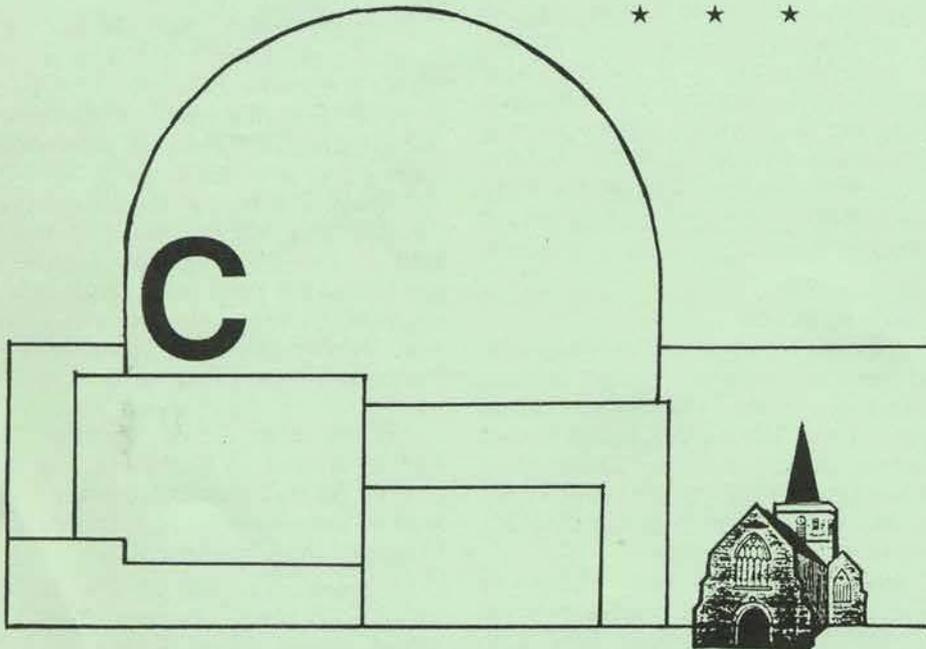
How large is a PWR? Gerald Ryan (COLA) said on Day 129 that its familiar hemispherical top was about the same diameter as the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral. Crispin Aubrey (SHE) produced a more local comparison on Day 131 by pointing out that it was over three times the height of the spire of Stogursey church. ▼

A blue and white striped marquee appeared on the lawn outside the Inquiry last week. This didn't contain strawberries and cream, but an exhibition of photos showing how the CEGB would like to bring in the vast PWR parts through the narrow streets of the village of Combuich.

★ ★ ★

The swarm of bees which has already invaded the Inquiry buildings returned during Week 33. This time, however, there was a firm, ecological solution to the problem in the form of a smoke gun. But although the bees were reluctant to succumb to this unpleasant experience, alarms weren't - and bells went off at regular intervals, disturbing the proceedings. The Inspector assured everyone that these were false alarms, and there was nothing to worry about.

★ ★ ★



The Eye Of The Beholder

Hinkley C was "a rather beautiful building," architect Ivan Owen told the Inquiry on Day 129 during questioning from Gerard Ryan (COLA).

Ryan had suggested to him that power stations were such foreign objects in the countryside that "wherever you put them the effect is likely to be equally disastrous."

He had earlier told landscape architect Adrian Lisney that the lack of any clear timescale or costing for his landscaping proposals implies that they would be given a low priority compared with other aspects of building and operating Hinkley C.

Crispin Aubrey (Stop Hinkley Expansion) put to Lisney on Day 130 that the way in which members of the public judged the aesthetic nature of Hinkley C might be greatly influenced by their attitude towards nuclear power, particularly as its dramatic rounded dome quite clearly advertis-

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ed its purpose. If, in addition, it could be shown that a majority of people in Somerset were against nuclear power, then this could be a crucial factor to be set alongside his judgements on the shape and colour of the reactor.

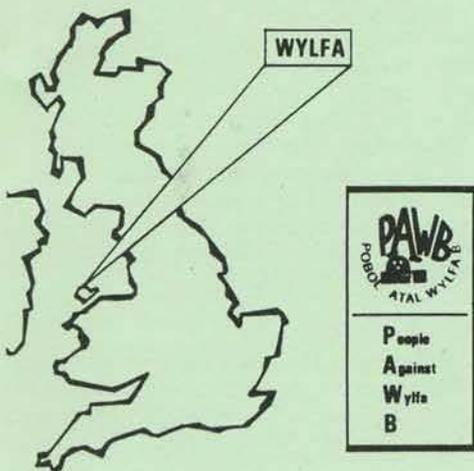
"To people who don't like nuclear power that building might well offend," Lisney conceded.

Aubrey referred Owen, who is a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to a report by the RIBA which criticised the further development of nuclear power on safety grounds. Owen said he didn't regard it as representative of the whole membership.

Sizewell Again!

CEGB barrister Robert Fookes told the ill-fated Combwich Inquiry that the application for an alternative route round the village was made "really as much as anything to test local reaction..."

This week saw another application by the *CEGB*, to build Sizewell C - yet another PWR. The consultation period, during which people can register their objection, is only six weeks. This means that the objection periods for both Wylfa B and Sizewell C will end at more or less the same time - the end of July.



Please write, stating your objections to the proposed PWRs, to Suffolk Coastal District Council and Ynys Mon District Council. The addresses are: Suffolk Coastal District Council, Melton Hill, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1AU; Ynys Mon Borough Council, Borough Council Offices, Llangefni, LL77 7TW.

Radiation Conference

"Living in an Irradiated World" is the title of this year's Low Level Radiation and Health Conference, to be held at the University of East Anglia in Norwich over the weekend July 1-2.

Speakers include Dr. Alice Stewart, Jean McSorley (*Cumbrians Opposed to a Radioactive Environment*), Dr. Frances Fry (*National Radiological Protection Board*), Dave Matthews (*Fire Brigades Union*) and Dr. Barry Lambert (*Barts Hospital Radiological Department*).

There are also numerous other speakers and workshops, exhibitions, a creche and evening entertainment. Registration costs £90 for institutions (three delegates), £16 for individuals (£8 concessions). Accommodation list available. Full details: *David Higgin, Greenhouse, 48 Bethel Street, Norwich NR2 1NR (0603 631007)*.

Working Out The Inquiry

- The Inspector told Maureen Randall (*Combwich Residents' Environmental Concern*) on Day 131 that anyone who wanted to raise issues to do with Combwich and Hinkley C should now do so during Topic 5. She pointed out that many local people were opposed to the use of the wharf under any circumstances, and resented the "arrogant" suggestion from the *CEGB* that it was a matter of choosing between two routes through the village.
- The Inspector has refused yet another request for a witness from *British Nuclear Fuels* to give evidence. Crispin Aubrey (*Stop Hinkley Expansion*) referred to the recent disclosures in *Time Out* and *The Observer* which catalogued the criticisms by the *CEGB* of the handling of its spent fuel, and the possibility that backlogs in reprocessing could lead to power cuts during the 1990s. The articles also quoted Lord Marshall as saying that the environmentalists had been right all along in promoting the dry storage of spent fuel - "and the entire nuclear industry has been wrong."

HINKLEY C PUBLIC INQUIRY COMES TO BRISTOL!

Everyone is welcome to come and speak or listen at these "Informal Sessions"

MONDAY JULY 17th,
1.30 - 9.00 p.m. (BREAK FROM 5-6.30)

and
TUESDAY JULY 18th,
9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Great Hall, Wills Building, Queen's Rd., Clifton (near top of Park St.)
F.F.I. Phone (0272) 710680 or 771235

- The Bristol informal sessions will be held in the Wills Memorial Building, Queen's Road, Clifton, Bristol on Monday July 17 (1.30-5 and 6.30-9.00pm) and Tuesday July 18 (9.30-1 and 2-5pm). Any topic area can be covered in evidence. The Bristol offices of *SHE* (0272) 771235 and *Friends of the Earth* (0272) 710680 are both offering help and advice to objectors.
- The Inspector pointed out that copies of all written evidence submitted to the Inquiry are available for inspection at the Secretariat's public office in Cannington.
- Evidence relating to the compulsory purchase of land for Hinkley C construction works will be heard during the day on June 29, and evidence about the proposed closure of public footpaths around the Hinkley site on June 30.

News From Stop Hinkley Centre

These last two weeks have seen both the start of Topic 5 and the coming and going of the Combwich CPO Inquiry.

The first week of Topic 5 saw an appearance by Brian Rome on all four days of the week. At one stage, it looked as if Brian would have to cross-examine three different *CEGB* witnesses on the same day. Thankfully, the Inspector adjourned the Inquiry earlier than expected. However, not to be outdone, on Day 130, Brian is down to cross-examine four

times! Don't ask me how he does it!

The week before the Combwich Inquiry saw local residents John and Maureen Randall submitting their proofs of evidence. The Randalls have been along to the Inquiry almost every day since I have been here (and, I am told, just as frequently while Jill was here). They submitted an excellent proof which included a number of old photographs from the early 1960s when Combwich wharf was used during the construction of Hinkley A.

They have also spent countless hours rallying local support and getting media interest (their dog, Judy, is now a celebrity in the South West!). I am sure the CEGB never counted on the Randalls when they slapped their Compulsory Purchase Order "Christmas present" on the residents of Brookside Road!

Despite the rather arrogant claims by the CEGB that their use of the wharf is inevitable, after their "blunder" at the Combwich Inquiry, the Randalls are still determined to convince the Inspector that building a new wharf off Hinkley Point itself is a better option.

Facilities For Objectors

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.

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.

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.

**STOP HINKLEY CENTRE,
CANNINGTON COURT, CHURCH STREET,
CANNINGTON, BRIDGWATER,
SOMERSET TA5 2HA
Tel: Bridgwater 652408 Fax: 652459**

DIARY

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

On Thursday June 29 an informal session will be held in the main hall of Cannington College from 6.30 pm. The Inquiry will not sit in the week July 10 - 14.

On July 17 and 18, the Inquiry will move to the Great Hall of the Wills Memorial Building, Bristol University. On July 17, it will sit 1.30 - 5.00 and 6.30 - 9.30 and on July 18, 9.30 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00.

Weeks 35, 36, 37

N.B. The starting time is 9.30 am unless otherwise stated and finishing about 5 pm. Fridays start at 9.15 am and finish about 3.30 pm.

Wednesday June 21 (10 am)

Procedural matters followed by Mr. E. Barnett and Mr. K. Brown (COLA 48 &

49) evidence and cross-examination.

Thursday June 22 (10 am)

Mr. J. Martin and Mr. R. Elliott (COLA 50 & 52) evidence and cross-examination.

Friday June 23

Mr. D. Illingworth and Mr. G. Harding (COLA 53 & 55) evidence and cross-examination.

Tuesday June 27

Bridgwater and Cannington bypass and River Parrett Bridge scheme enquiry (includes evening session from 6.30 pm).

Wednesday June 28

Bridgwater and Cannington bypass and River Parrett Bridge scheme enquiry.

Thursday June 29

Consideration of compulsory purchase order for agricultural land for proposed site for Hinkley C.

Friday June 30

Consideration of proposed closure of footpaths at Hinkley Point.

Tuesday July 4

Procedural matters followed by Mr. R. Organ (COLA 54), Mr. J. Murphy (Stogursey Parish Council), Mr. Bedingfield (Friends of Quantock), Mr. R. Hancock (Kilve Parish Council), Mrs. M. Barker (Taunton Labour Party) and Mr. D. Illingworth, evidence and cross-examination.

Wednesday July 5

Evidence and cross-examination of Katherine East, Ian Seaton, May Morris, Mr. B. Noyce, W. H. Palmer & Sons, Roy Pumfrey, Mr. I. Shields, Lynda Stahl and Philip Keen.

Thursday July 6

Evidence and cross-examination of Mr. J. Jackson (Railway Development Society), Celia Hadow, Mr. A. Body, Beryl Urquhart, Doreen Marsden, Ms. P. Michel, Clive Knox and Mr. R. Allen.

Friday July 7

Evidence and cross-examination of Hazel Barkham, Mr. S. Vallance, James White, Gillian Pearce, Ms. B. Valley (Women's Environmental Network), and ECOROPA.

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