



Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Radioactive Waste Management

Response to the Public Consultation on “National Geological Screening Guidance”

From Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

Background

1. Mr Keith Sullivan, Chair of OPC, attended the seminar on this subject in Bristol on 14th October 2015.
2. No member of OPC is a geologist, the only information available to us is that presented in the document entitled “Providing information on Geology”.
3. Figures 1 and 3 in the document, which are important to understanding the principles are regrettably unreadable as they are printed far too small. (have subsequently managed to read these on line.)

QUESTION 1

To what extent do you think our proposed approach to providing national-scale existing information about geology relevant to long-term safety is appropriate?

ANSWER 1

It appears that existing information does not cover the whole of the UK and much interpolation is needed. If sites are chosen as a result of this method considerable further research/boreholes are needed before final decisions are made. We do not have the geological knowledge to be certain that the existing information will give either reliable results or comfort to those living nearby.

QUESTION 2

The proposed sources of information are summarised below.

To what extent do you think that these sources are appropriate and sufficient for this exercise?

ANSWER 2

While we are comfortable that the “geological topics” have been chosen wisely, we cannot comment on the sources of information as we are not geologists.

QUESTION 3

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed form of the outputs from geological screening?

What additional outputs would you find useful?

ANSWER 3

We welcome the fact that outputs will be accessible to “non specialist” audiences, however it must also be clear and understandable and at the same time sufficiently robust to enable decisions to be made.

QUESTION 4

Do you have any other views on the matters presented in the draft Guidance?

ANSWER 4

While we believe this document gives a perfectly correct view of the situation, the document appears to us to be written by either competent geologists or those who have been working in this field for some time. The document should be aimed at Parish, District and County Councillors. They are not qualified geologists and they neither understand the technical terms used nor the consequences of error. They are intelligent people who have to make decisions that will affect their constituents and the place where they live for generations to come.

Please can we have more straightforward clear understandable language.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Sullivan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Keith Sullivan

Chair Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

9th November 2015