

03 DEC 2013

**Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council**

25<sup>th</sup> November 2013

GDF siting process consultation  
Department of Energy and Climate Change  
55 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2EY

Dear Sirs,

**Consultation : Review of the Siting Process for a Geological Disposal Facility :  
November 2013**

Bowness on Solway Parish Council is concerned that the Government has re-opened the search for a nuclear repository in our area in the same year as it declared the MRWS process to be complete. The Cumbria County Council Cabinet ruled out the suitability of our area by a unanimous vote in January this year. The Parish Council respected the process despite neither the Parish Council nor our elected representatives in Allerdale having a say in the decision. There is disappointment that the Government has reneged on its own process and then proposes to remove the Cumbria County Council from the process for the next search for a facility. The Parish Council has already been informed that they are again to have no say in the decision and considers that this calls into question the Government's approach. Is this the true meaning of localism in a landscape which enjoys the highest level of protection in law and is already suffering from a plague of onshore and offshore giant turbines, with many more in the pipeline, whilst its people will be forced to live in the shadowy prospect of a nuclear repository causing many years of worry, anxiety and confusion? The Parish Council would like to see this area ruled out now and a truly national search made for a safe and genuine location. The Parish Council also urges the leaders of Allerdale Borough Council not to renege on their promise to abide by the democratic process which they asked us to accept.

The Council trusts that its views will be given serious consideration prior to any re-launch of the GDF site selection process.

Your sincerely



Michael Abbs  
Parish Clerk