

**RTPI**

mediation of space · making of place

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Patron HRH The Prince of Wales KG KT PC GCB

27 March 2009

Owen Jenkins  
The Justification assessment Centre  
Office for nuclear Development  
Department of Energy and Climate Change  
Bay 128, 1 Victoria Street  
London, SW1H 0ET

Email response sent to: [justification@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:justification@decc.gsi.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Jenkins,

## **RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION'S APPLICATION TO JUSTIFY NEW NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the above consultation. The RTPI is a membership organisation representing over 22,000 spatial planners. It exists to advance the science and art of town planning for the benefit of the public.

The RTPI supports the national policy statement framework and associated measures currently being prepared through the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Infrastructure Planning Commission to ensure required infrastructure is identified and developed in a timely manner.

We welcome the DECC setting out the justification, licensing and consents processes, and the definition of classes set out in this paper. While the RTPI does not intend to specifically respond to the detail of this document, we would like to highlight a number of points in relation to future major infrastructure provision

The RTPI has responded to previous consultations relating to nuclear power and believes a more strategic and integrated approach to energy planning needs to be adopted by the government, at a higher level than the current draft statement exercise. This would address the broad strategic approach to energy security of supply, diversity and response to our carbon challenge. It would explain why nuclear power has a role in the energy mix and would establish the basis for the scale of new nuclear generation that the Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS) will provide for. The RTPI proposes that a high level national energy strategy in the form of a NPS should be prepared by the government to set the direction for all energy priorities.

The RTPI believe that the current proposals for nuclear power should form one part of a national energy planning policy agenda.

If you require any further assistance, please contact Rebecca Coates, Planning Policy Officer on 0207 929 9494 or email [england.policy@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:england.policy@rtpi.org.uk) .

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rynd Smith', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rynd Smith  
Director Policy and Partnerships