

## CALLING TIME ON THE HYPE AND DELUSIONS OF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

### Endorsements for 'Net Zero Without Nuclear' Report by Jonathon Porritt

#### Greenpeace

*John Sauven, Director, and Doug Parr, Chief Scientist, Greenpeace*

'Jonathon Porritt assiduously documents not just the past failures of the industry, but the continued cycle of hype which asserts that new nuclear power is essential. Evaluating each argument in turn, he teases apart the simplistic notions that the industry relies on to maintain political support. Any politician who continues to argue for public support for nuclear power should read this and justify why they intend to keep throwing taxpayers money at it. The arguments don't stack up.'

#### Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland

*Hugh Knowles, Co-Executive Director, and Mike Childs, Head of Science, Policy and Research, Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland*

'Over the last decade the renewable energy industry has proved that it can generate electricity far faster, cheaper and cleaner than the nuclear industry. This trajectory is set to continue at an even greater pace. This is a timely report that demolishes the idea that we need new nuclear power. Despite this, as Jonathon Porritt's report also makes clear, both the nuclear and fossil fuel industries still wield far too much influence within government. Our future depends on policy-makers seeing the non-nuclear future that is within our grasp, and rejecting those vested interests. We must look to the evidence, and listen to the voices of the young, who will bear the brunt if we let vested interests steer us into costly mistakes.'

#### Friends of the Earth Scotland

*Richard Dixon, Director, Friends of the Earth Scotland*

'In his characteristically clear and incisive fashion, Jonathon Porritt comprehensively gives the lie to the arguments the nuclear industry tries to make for its dream of new reactors to play any part in reaching our climate goals. Bristling with key facts and convincing arguments, this is a must read for anyone interested in our path out of the Climate Emergency.'

#### The Green Party

*Jonathan Bartley, Co-Leader, and David Flint, Energy Spokesperson, Green Party of England and Wales*

'As Jonathon Porritt shows in his latest report, 'nuclear power is a zombie technology'. Nuclear companies are struggling to meet basic requirements and completely incapable of building power stations on time and within budget. Renewables just get better every year. We simply have to major on renewables to address the Climate Emergency. We don't need new nuclear power, and shouldn't be asked to pay for it.'

## **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament**

***Kate Hudson, General Secretary***

'Jonathon Porritt's latest is, as always, a concise and very well-argued report setting out the many arguments against nuclear power. Clearly nuclear is reeling from the competition of the renewables and, if normal economics applied, nuclear would have faded from view some time ago. But Jonathon describes the massive PR efforts of the nuclear energy industry to survive, and the life-support measures provided by successive Tory (and Labour) Governments. One wonders how long they will keep flogging nuclear's dead horse, as the recent technological advances, cost reductions and economies of scale in wind power and photovoltaics show no signs of slowing down. Kudos to Jonathon!'

## **Former Directors of Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland**

***Tom Burke, Dave Gee, Charles Secrett, Andy Atkins, Craig Bennett***

'This is such an important new report from Jonathon Porritt. The nuclear industry is engaged in a massive new propaganda campaign, but there should still be no doubt in people's mind that nuclear energy has no contribution to make to the UK's Net Zero carbon ambitions.'

***Dr Paul Dorfman, UCL Energy Institute, University College London***

'With mounting public concern and increased recognition on the part of policymakers regarding the speed of the low-carbon energy transition needed to mitigate climate change, nuclear power has been reframed as a response to the threat of global warming. Jonathon Porritt's report unpacks this rhetoric, and shows us that there's no place for nuclear within the swiftly expanding renewable energy evolution.'

***Dr Phil Johnstone, Research Fellow, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex***

'The UK's 'nuclear renaissance' has proved to be a costly and ineffective means of rapidly reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. However, yet, more bold pronouncements continue to be made by government and industry of a bright new nuclear future that's apparently just round the corner. It is therefore a breath of fresh air to read such a succinct yet comprehensive, factually grounded, and well-written document that cuts through this rhetoric.'

***Professor Catherine Mitchell, Professor of Energy Policy, University of Exeter***

'Jonathon confronts the argument that new nuclear is needed to meet the challenges of climate change head on – ie it's not. He also tries to understand why any Government would support nuclear power given all the cheaper, more sustainable alternatives which better suit a smart, integrated energy system. In methodically assessing all the arguments put forward by supporters, including Government, he provides powerful arguments for why reaching net zero would be a whole lot easier and cheaper without nuclear.'

***Professor Rupert Read, former national spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion and author, 'Parents for a Future'***

'This report deserves and repays a careful reading. Porritt has shown beyond reasonable doubt that there is a strong pragmatic case against new nuclear power. And that anyone who cares about the climate and about nature – and that ought to mean, *everyone* – should junk once and for all the fantasy that nuclear power is anything other than a wasteful and harmful distraction.'

***Professor Andy Stirling, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex***

'At a time when rising costs, failed promises and flourishing alternatives make the case for new nuclear more tenuous than ever, it is a sobering signal of the power of vested interests that supporting noises are paradoxically growing. This document is the most effective resource I know to counter these deceptive forces. Always clear, reflective and engaging, Jonathon Porritt shines a light through the barricades to illuminate the bewildering complexities. Too slow, too expensive and too downright

problematic, the bottom line is that nuclear is diverting precious money, energy and attention away from far more effective climate actions.'

***Steve Thomas, Coordinating Editor, Energy Policy; Emeritus Professor of Energy Policy, University of Greenwich***

'This report, stripped of all the mystifying jargon often used to cloud debates, shows the strength of the arguments against nuclear, and demolishes the arguments put forward that we must, despite these issues, carry on with nuclear because there is no alternative.'

***Pete Wilkinson, Coordinator, Together Against Sizewell C***

'If a faltering nuclear industry, government ministers, or even misguided 'greens' are still hoping to muster a half-decent case for nuclear, Jonathon's systematic and total demolition of nuclear power constructs a withering and irrefutable case against. His 'Net Zero Without Nuclear' is an indispensable guide to why nuclear is not an answer to climate change, and why it is time to turn our backs on this redundant technology.'