

## **Supplementary written evidence submitted by EDF Energy (POW0105)**

I am writing following the oral evidence session on November 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a privilege to attend the important session on 'Keeping the power on: our future energy technology mix'. I am grateful for the opportunity to highlight the work our nuclear fleet does to keep the UK's power on, whilst also discussing the future prospects for the nuclear industry and the key role it has in UK's energy mix.

As discussed in the session, the Committee asked me to follow up in writing on some questions. Below you will find responses to those questions.

### **Q186 and 187 from Angus McNeil MP**

In response to the question regarding where our fuel comes from and whether Canada is our main supplier, I can share with you the current fuel supply chain:

Natural Uranium – Canada and Kazakhstan make up over 50% of our uranium ore supply, Niger remains a significant source, but due to the recent instability our large supply chain has been flexed to cover any disruption and no issues have been seen.

Conversion – Orano (France), Cameco (Canada) and ConverDyn (USA) supply 100% of our conversion requirements.

Enrichment – Orano (France) and Urenco (UK, Netherlands) supply 100% of our enrichment requirements.

Fabrication – SFL (UK) manufactures all our AGR fuel, Framatome (France and Germany) manufacture all our PWR fuel.

As I said in the session, fuel does not come from Russia. We acted early, and as far back as 2015, we led the way in reducing Russian supply agreements after the annexation of Crimea and Donbas.

We have successfully removed all Russian material from all our AGR power stations, and set permanent supply arrangements so that the AGRs will not utilise Russian material for the rest of their lifetimes. Hinkley Point C has already secured agreements for enriched uranium supply that has excluded Russian material.

We are determined to eliminate Russian material completely from the UK fuel cycle. We have collaborated with the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero to set out how to fully eliminate the last and most difficult parts from the fuel cycle. Sizewell B will transfer its Russian reprocessed uranium supply to Springfields Fuel Ltd as soon as the plant becomes available. The strategy is clear, and with a defined timescale, whilst we also balance that with maintaining output from the station while we update the safety cases in place.

### **Q198 from Barry Gardiner MP**

In response to the question around decommissioning costs, the costs for decommissioning, waste and spent fuel management and disposal are funded through a Funded Decommissioning Programme (FDP), approved by the Secretary of State, which must be in place before the operator uses the site by virtue of the site licence.

This ensures that the operator sets aside funds over the operating life of the power station to cover these costs in full.

A legal framework that implements this policy has been established through the Energy Act 2008 and the government also published a consultation on draft FDP guidance in February 2008 providing further detail on what an FDP should contain. Further consultations on the arrangements for setting a fixed price for waste disposal and the regulations under the 2008 Energy Act were issued on March 2010.

Finally, the UK Government has created the independent Nuclear Liabilities Financing Assurance Board (NLFAB), to provide impartial scrutiny and advice on the suitability of the FDP, submitted by operators of new nuclear power stations. NLFAB would advise the Secretary of State on the financial arrangements that operators submit for approval, and on the regular review and ongoing scrutiny of

funding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Spence". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P" and "S".

Paul Spence  
Director for Strategy and Corporate Affairs

*December 2023*