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North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

Your Ref: [REDACTED]

Proud to be  Overall Council of the Year 2017

12 November 2019

To whom it may concern

### **LIVING WITHIN THE DEPZ OF HUNTERSTON B NUCLEAR POWER STATION**

As you may be aware, REPPIR (Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations) 2019 came into effect on 22 May 2019 and as a result the Hunterston B Nuclear Power Station Off Site plan is required to adhere to the new regulations by May 2020.

The principal changes to the legislation which affect the local authority and local residents are:

- It is now the responsibility of the local authority to determine the DEPZ (Detailed Emergency Planning Zone) based on information supplied by EDF and by PHE (Public Health England) who have been appointed independently by the Council and, using their local knowledge with regard to geography, etc. (in simple terms, the legislation is requesting that the DEPZ follows geographical contours, ie, roads / field lines).
- It is now a local authority responsibility to ensure that households within the DEPZ are provided with prior emergency and safety information. (This is currently done by EDF and is in the form of a calendar).
- Outline Planning Zones (OPZ) have now been introduced which means that people living within 30km of the site need to be advised and provided with prior information (Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team have already met colleagues in neighbouring councils out to 30km and agreement has been reached about including information on their council websites.)
- In addition to the above, the Off Site plan needs to consider planning for vulnerable areas / groups within the 30 km area. This was previously 10km however, the Hunterston plan has already extended this to 20km.

North Ayrshire Council through Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team (ACCT) have received the Consequence Report (attached) from EDF. This Consequence Report has indicated that a DEPZ of 1km is sufficient. As you will be aware, the current DEPZ is 2.4km. The Consequence Report and frequently asked questions has been added to North Ayrshire Council's website <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/reppir-2019.aspx>.

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ACCT staff recently visited the area and completed a full walk around of the area. To this end they were able to consider the following options,:

1. a DEPZ of 1km;
2. a DEPZ using the natural boundary of the A78; and
3. a DEPZ utilising the A78 (as far as possible) but including all households which are currently within the DEPZ to remain as the legislation allows for “lumps and bumps” to be included.

Recommendation 3 is the closest to the existing DEPZ.

In due course North Ayrshire Council will determine the boundary of the DEPZ. The legislation states that the local authority must determine the DEPZ on the basis of the operator’s recommendation (which is 1km) but may extend that area in consideration of—

- (a) local geographic, demographic and practical implementation issues;
- (b) the need to avoid, where practicable, the bisection of local communities; and
- (c) the inclusion of vulnerable groups immediately adjacent to the area proposed by the operator.

To inform the Council’s decision we are keen to get the views of occupiers within the current DEPZ. In particular, we are keen to get your views on which of the three options above should be adopted, and why. If seeking a DEPZ greater than the Operator’s recommendation of 1km it would be helpful for your reasons to consider criteria (a) to (c) as set out in the previous paragraph. This will help inform the report to Council.

We are happy to receive comments by letter or email [redacted]

Alternatively, if you would like to speak to us you can call us on [redacted]

Comments should be submitted by 30 November 2019.

Yours faithfully

