



Green MEP slammed over criticism of Lovelock's support for nuclear power

04 Jul 2019

GMB, the union for energy workers, has slammed Green MEP Molly Scott-Cato's criticism of Gaia hypothesis author James Lovelock's support for nuclear power.

Her pointed comments came in a Radio 4 Today Programme interview ahead of Gaia hypothesis author James Lovelock's 100th birthday. Lovelock has been a long-time supporter of nuclear as a "safe, available, energy source" to address the climate crisis.

GMB said ultra-low carbon nuclear power should be part of the solution to climate change and Britain urgently needs at least another six new nuclear power stations, starting with Sizewell C in Suffolk.

Justin Bowden, GMB National Secretary said:

"Nuclear power is a safe, reliable, energy source which perfectly complements intermittent sources like wind and solar – and those who are committed to practical solutions to address the reality of the climate crisis know it must be part of the solution.



“For Molly Scott-Cato to airily dismiss nuclear power as a thing of the past ignores the scale of the challenge we face.”

“It’s disingenuous for Molly Scott-Cato to question the costs of nuclear power, while failing to acknowledge renewable energy sources requires subsidies of £10 per week per household by 2021 which go into the pockets of big corporate investors. With the right financing model, nuclear can compete directly on cost with wind.

“If we are to address the reality of the climate crisis - whilst keeping our country’s lights turned on, our homes heated and our economy working - then we have to face up to the fact that we need a mix of energy which combines increasing renewable sources, like wind and solar, with new nuclear and green hydrogen gas.

“The costs and subsidies to achieve decarbonisation must come from progressive general taxation - including corporation tax - not via the current systems of adding costs to every household’s energy bills which disproportionately hits the lowest paid workers and those least able to pay.”

