

The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Sent by email kwasi.kwarteng.mp@parliament.uk

30th July 2021

Dear Secretary of State,

RE: Nuclear funding

Nuclear power is vital for the UK's future energy mix and to achieve net zero. It provides reliable, high output electricity needed to complement the intermittence of other low-carbon energy sources and it does so taking up relatively little land. There is also the potential for nuclear to provide us with growing hydrogen capability.

Nuclear power is a proven driver of economic growth, directly supporting jobs through construction, delivery and in decommissioning, plus many more in supply chains. GMB is proud to represent thousands of members throughout the sector. The sector is at a crossroads, and we are now entering a key phase to maintain and expand nuclear capacity, with a majority of the UK's existing fleet retiring over the next few years.

It is therefore surprising that the UK government still hasn't determined how it will support essential new nuclear projects such as Sizewell C and Bradwell B. If reports that the government plans to block CGN investment are true, then it is even more urgent that a funding formula is found and the necessary legislation put in place. Failure to do so could have knock-on consequences across the sector and set back action to meet climate change by years.

Thousands of families, including those of our members, are relying on decisive action by the government in this area. Sizewell C alone will create 25,000 jobs in the UK and 1,500 apprenticeships and a further 45,000 more across the UK. These are the high skill, high pay, quality jobs needed to meet the government's stated objectives of levelling up the economy.

We are asking that you back up your words with action and get these nuclear projects moving.

Your sincerely,

Charlotte Childs
GMB National Officer (Construction)

Gary Carter
GMB National Officer (Energy)