



**Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero**

Andrew Bowie MP
Minister for Nuclear and
Renewables

**Department for Energy Security
& Net Zero**
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Provost Struan Mackie
Chairman of Dounraey Stakeholder Group
C/o: Dawn Clasper
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Your ref: DSG (2024) C004

2 April 2024

Dear Struan,

Thank you for your letter dated 13 March, inviting me to Dounraey to meet with the stakeholder group and outlining the importance of nuclear power in the UK.

The Government is committed to ensuring that the UK is one of the best places in the world to invest in civil nuclear power and is taking steps to revitalise the UK's nuclear industry. The British Energy Security Strategy set out our ambition to deploy up to 24 gigawatts of civil nuclear generation by 2050, around 25% of our projected 2050 electricity demand. The publication of our Civil Nuclear Roadmap sets out our long-term ambition for nuclear, providing high-level timelines and key decision points for a wide range of nuclear technologies over the next decades, including Small Modular Reactors, Advanced Modular Reactors and Gigawatt scale projects. This includes a new commitment to explore a further Gigawatt scale nuclear project after Sizewell C.

We are also committed to ensuring the UK civil nuclear industry has the required skills to deliver on its decommissioning requirements, together with supporting the proposed programme of new nuclear as outline above. Currently there are critical skills shortages in the UK civil nuclear industry and employers are facing competition for talent, and there are challenges in attracting new talent to the industry however, this can only be tackled by cross-sector collaborative action via a well-informed, connected and leading voice on skills. There is a lot of great work on increasing nuclear skills already happening, and the Government remains committed to close collaboration with the nuclear sector to leverage existing initiatives and work towards shared goals.

Thank you for writing to outline the work your group does, and I look forward to visiting Dounraey as soon as my diary allows.

Yours aye,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small flourish.

Andrew Bowie MP
Minister for Nuclear and Renewables