

6 February 2013

Mr Nick Evans
Senior Manager, Democratic Services
Cumbria County Council
The Lonsdale Building
CARLISLE
CA3 8NA

Dear Nick,

Date of Decision 30 January 2013
Decision taken by Cabinet
Decision **RESOLVED**

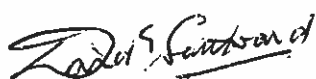
that Cabinet decides not to participate in Stage 4 thereby excluding the Allerdale and Copeland areas of Cumbria from further consideration in the MRWS process and to encourage the Government to make the necessary investment to improve surface storage facilities at Sellafield, (taking account of the findings of the National Audit Office report HC 630 dated 7 November 2012)

The above decision has been called in to test the merits of the cabinet decision and to scrutinise the basis on which it was taken. The decision before cabinet was to determine whether to participate in Stage 4 of the MRWS process that would seek to identify suitable sites for an underground repository for nuclear waste. We believe the decision 'not to participate' was flawed for a number of reasons, some of which we list below.

- 1 Cabinet gave no coherent reason for the decision.
- 2 The decision foregoes the opportunity to identify suitable sites indefinitely.
- 3 The premature abandonment of the MRWS process flies in the face of established UK government and Cumbria County Council policies.
- 4 The decision discounts the clear majority view of Copeland residents who want the MRWS process to proceed to Stage 4.
- 5 The decision jeopardises relations between the UK government and CCC, particularly with regard to nuclear new build.
- 6 The decision stultifies economic development in Copeland for a generation.

We should be grateful if you would instigate the necessary procedures and request the attendance of appropriate officers and members at the call-in meeting.

Yours sincerely,



David Southward MBE



Frank Morgan



Wendy Skillicorn