



CECA CIVIL ENGINEERING
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION

1 Birdcage Walk, London, SW1H 9JJ
enquiries@ceca.co.uk
020 7340 0450

PRESS RELEASE

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Weightman Interim Report Offers Confidence In UK Nuclear Sector

The Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) welcomes the expression of confidence in the UK nuclear sector offered by today's interim report into the implications of the events at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan, delivered by Dr Mike Weightman.

The report offers a firm vote of confidence in the safety of the UK's existing nuclear fleet, as well as the planned next generation of reactors. It also underlines the strength of the UK's robust and transparent approach to nuclear safety issues.

CECA has welcomed Dr Weightman's thorough investigation, believing that it is necessary to ensure full confidence in the ability of nuclear power to deliver low carbon energy safely and securely into the future, and it continues to fully support Dr Weightman's continuing work building towards his final report due later this year.

CECA director of external affairs Alasdair Reisner commented: "Today's report is a real vote of confidence in the abilities of the UK nuclear industry to produce power that is safe and secure both at present, and into the future.

"We fully support the intentions behind Dr Weightman's investigation. It is absolutely crucial that public faith in the nuclear industry is supported and concerns are answered. Central to this is a duty for the whole nuclear industry to make sure that any lessons from the Fukushima accident are learnt here in the UK, and rigorous safety and inspection procedures are in place.

"Today's report confirms CECA's view that the UK nuclear industry is underpinned by a robust regime to identify and manage safety risks, both for existing facilities and for the country's nuclear new build programme."

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For more information, further comment or interviews please contact Calum Benson on 020 7340 0452 or calumbenson@ceca.co.uk

Notes to Editors

1. The Civil Engineering Contractors Association represents over 300 contractors of all sizes, covering approximately 80% of the civil engineering market in Great Britain. Our members build infrastructure that provides the basis for economic sustainability and quality of life in communities across the country.
2. The full Interim report is available here: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/fukushima/interim-report.htm>