



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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## **Subsidies to Nuclear Power**

Thank you for contacting me about nuclear power.

Nuclear power will play a vital part in the long-term energy mix of the UK. It provides a low-carbon, home-grown source of electricity, that will power millions of homes and businesses for decades to come. It is vital that we build an energy infrastructure that is not only clean, but also reliable, in order to secure our energy future.

Ministers worked hard to secure the billions of pounds worth of private sector investment to fund the UK's first new nuclear power plant in a generation. The plant to be built at Hinkley Point C would be built entirely without taxpayers' money. In addition, the full costs of future decommissioning will also be met by the operator.

No form of power generation – including gas – can be built without Government intervention. Agreements are in place with the private investors to create certainty over the price of electricity which would be produced at Hinkley. This has been set at £92.50 per megawatt hour for Hinkley, and will be reduced to £89.50 should work on a new plant at Sizewell start. The Government offered this guarantee to secure the investment we need to keep the lights on. Hinkley will also be expected to be cost-competitive with other electricity technologies capable of delivering at scale in the 2020s.

A power station at Hinkley Point has the potential to reduce the UK's carbon emissions, bring billions of private investment into the UK economy and create around 26,000 jobs at the peak of construction. It will provide a clean source of home-grown energy, providing 7 per cent of the country's energy needs.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP