

Critical views on the Government's nuclear plans

What they said	Who said it	Position	Source: Date
"...every sensible investor decided long ago to give this troubled project a wide berth."	Editorial	Observer	Observer 27 th Sept 2015 http://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/sep/27/hinkley-point-what-price-avoiding-humiliation
"Hinkley: a truly major national scandal ... as absurd a project as any government has ever fallen for."	Christopher Booker	Columnist	Telegraph 26 th Sept 2015 http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/11893698/Hinkley-a-truly-major-national-scandal.html
"Already the £24.5 billion project ... is expected to finish over-budget and beyond the projected start date of 2023, if it ever starts at all ... Mr Osborne may ... calculate that Hinkley Point will create numerous jobs and building opportunities [but] the costs, meanwhile, would not become apparent until the plant is completed and bills rise. Future governments would reap the fallout, not this one."	Editorial	Economist	Economist 26 th Sept 2015 http://www.economist.com/news/britain/21667932-britains-nuclear-plans-look-over-expensive-and-over-reliant-china-china-syndrome
"...there is more to Britain's national interest than a few billions of Chinese investment in a dodgy nuclear energy programme."	Editorial	Financial Times	FT Sept 24 2015 http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/4d8cdea2-6210-11e5-9846-de406ccb37f2.html
"Only China wants to invest ... because no-one else thinks it will work."	Paraphrasing EDF	Independent	Independent Sept 23 2015 http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/only-china-wants-to-invest-in-britains-new-2bn-hinkley-point-nuclear-plant-because-no-one-else-10513752.html
"It is the costliest white elephant in history"	Simon Jenkins	Guardian Columnist	Guardian Sept 23 2015 http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/sep/23/hinkley-point-squandermania-george-osborne-china
"We must avoid sleepwalking into commercial dependency on Chinese companies that are quasi-state owned. The national grid is essential for the survival of the nation. It does not have to be put up for sale to the highest bidder"	Editorial	The Times	The Times Sept 22 2015 http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/leaders/article4563849.ece
The Guardian view on Hinkley Point C: overcomplicated, overpriced and overdue	Editorial	Guardian	Guardian Sept 21 2015 http://www.theguardian.com/environment/damian-carrington-blog/2015/sep/21/hinkley-point-nuclear-station-enemies
"(has) the chancellor ... seen and read internal reports from EDF and Areva, the two state-owned	Editorial	FT	FT Sept 21 2015 http://www.ft.com/cms/s/d0c

French nuclear firms, on what has gone wrong with the construction of the two “EPR” European pressurised reactors?”			8d010-6043-11e5-9846-de406ccb37f2.html
Chancellor George Osborne and his Treasury cannot be trusted to run the UK’s energy policy	Editorial	The Ecologist	The Ecologist Sept 21 2015 http://www.theecologist.org/News/news_analysis/2985499/nuclear_madness_2_billion_for_hinkley_c_why_the_treasury_must_get_its_hands_off_energy.html
Hinkley is not just poor value for money – it’s an outrage	Editorial	Daily Express	Daily Express Sept 21 2015 http://www.express.co.uk/comment/expresscomment/607008/Ross-Clark-energy-climate-change
“Hinkley’s prospective electricity looks scarily expensive.”	Robert Peston	BBC Economics Editor	BBC 21 st Sept 2015 http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-34306997
“Hinkley C bears all the distinguishing features of a white elephant: overpriced, overcomplicated and overdue. The delay that was announced recently should be the final straw. The government should kill the project”	Messrs Monbiot, Lynas, Goodall	Pro_nuclear columnists	Guardian Sept 19 2015 http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/sep/18/we-are-pro-nuclear-but-hinkley-c-must-be-scraped
Five reasons NOT to build Hinkley C	Editorial	Bloomberg	Bloomberg New Energy Finance Sept 2015 http://about.bnef.com/landing-pages/five-reasons-build-hinkley/
Hinkley Point is close to being another version of Kid’s Company ... the earnings before income and tax that will accrue to EDF if the deal goes ahead ... will exceed those of all the current big six electricity providers (including EDF itself) combined in 2014.	Nick Butler	Energy columnist	FT 14 th September 2015 http://blogs.ft.com/nick-butler/2015/09/14/new-nuclear-time-for-serious-renegotiation/
Consumers could end up paying more than £40 billion in subsidies to support Hinkley Point C	Antony Froggatt	Senior Research Fellow at Chatham House	Times 10 th September 2015 http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/business/industries/utilities/article4552404.ece
“Shouldn’t we really go back to the drawing board, rather than plumping for what I think will be a kind of bottomless pit and a big white elephant?”	Lord Turnbull	Cabinet Secretary 2002 -05	Independent 9 th September 2015 http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/hinkley-point-branded-nuclear-white-elephant-by-former-civil-service-chief-10492412.html
“UK should think again about Hinkley Point nuclear power station. The economics of EDF’s project looks less and less desirable ... The government should seize the chance ... to look at the whole misconceived project again ... If the economics does not make sense, it should consider	Editorial	Financial Times	FT 9 th September 2010 http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/b07291aa-56ef-11e5-9846-de406ccb37f2.html

scrapping the deal ...”			
“...the government is making a pig’s ear of its crazy energy policy” “this incomprehensible approach to energy” “... lunacy of the biggest white elephant in Britain...”	Chris Booker	Daily Mail	Daily Mail Aug 14 2015 http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3197220/CHRISTOPHER-BOOKER-Lunacy-biggest-white-elephant-Britain.html
“...risk of being lumbered with a white elephant under current plans. The Energy Secretary needs to reassess them before committing taxpayers to what may be an unsustainable project at Hinkley”	Editorial	Daily Telegraph	Daily Telegraph Aug 12 2015 http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/11796778/Nuclear-warnings.html
Re Hinkley: “We will look back and think that nuclear was an expensive mistake... my children, and my children’s children, are going to be thinking, ‘Was that a good deal?’	Paul Massara	Chief Executive, RWE Npower	Sunday Times Aug 9 2015 http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/business/Industry/article1591057.ece
“for the same price as Hinkley, [about 15] new gas-fired power stations could be built... replacing entire UK thermal generation fleet”	Peter Atherton	Jefferies Investment Bank	Guardian, Aug 9 2015 http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/aug/09/planned-hinkley-point-nuclear-power-station-energy-industry
Hinkley is “one of the worst deals ever for British households and British industry”.	Lord Howell, father-in-law to Chancellor	former Energy Secretary	Independent Aug 4 2015 http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/government-under-pressure-to-abandon-plans-to-construct-uks-first-nuclear-reactor-for-more-than-20-years-10436235.html
Hinkley “becoming harder to justify” “ample reason for the UK Government to delay or cancel the project”	HSBC analysts	HSBC Bank	Independent Aug 4 2015 http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/government-under-pressure-to-abandon-plans-to-construct-uks-first-nuclear-reactor-for-more-than-20-years-10436235.html
”...a growing chorus of critics are calling for the unthinkable: to bin Hinkley Point altogether.”	Editorial	Sunday Times	Sunday Times June 21 2015 http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/business/Industry/article1571248.ece
“Britain might well be able to do without atomic power altogether...real priority should be on developing ways of storing electricity so as to be able to depend on intermittent sun and wind.”	Sir David King	former Chief Gov’t Scientist	Telegraph Nov 21 2014 http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/earth/energy/nuclearpower/11244499/Nuclear-power-may-not-be-needed-says-top-atomic-advocate.html
“Why has Britain signed up for the world’s most expensive power station?” “MPs owe it to the taxpayer to throw out the proposed Hinkley deal.”	Editorial	Spectator	Spectator Feb 21 2014 http://www.spectator.co.uk/features/9141142/why-has-britain-signed-up-for-the-worlds-most-expensive-power-station/
“...nuclear power is very, very expensive	Lord	former BP	Guardian Nov 28 2013

indeed.."	Browne	CEO, Gov't advisor	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2013/nov/29/browne-fracking-not-reduce-uk-gas-prices-shale-energy-bills
"We don't do nuclear energy." "The World Bank Group does not engage in providing support for nuclear power."	Jim Yong Kim	World Bank President	Physics News Nov 27 2013 http://phys.org/news/2013-11-world-bank-money-nuclear-power.html
Energy Secy had let EdF "take the British Government for a ride" over the "ludicrously high" subsidy to fund proposed £24 billion Hinkley plant	Lord Lawson	former Chancellor	Times Nov 8 2013 http://tinyurl.com/ljaamms
"Flabbergasted... we are frankly staggered.... Hinkley will be the most expensive power station in the world".	Peter Atherton	Former Director, Liberum Capital	Guardian Oct 30 2013 http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2013/oct/30/hinkley-point-nuclear-power-plant-uk-government-edf-underwrite
"Britain runs towards nuclear energy as other countries flee." "UK alone in EU re advanced plans for more nuclear power, apart from Finland."	Editorial	Economist	Economist Oct 26 2013 http://www.economist.com/news/britain/21588410-britain-runs-towards-nuclear-energy-other-countries-flee-nuke-it
"Deal shows government... were convinced that electricity prices will double in the next decade and beyond. This is naïve."	Tony Lodge	Director, Centre for Policy Studies	City AM Oct 23 2013 http://tinyurl.com/qz3djun