

Hinkley Point milestone welcome – but carbon free UK needs more



Project will bring thousands of jobs, a huge economic boost and massive amounts of ultra-low carbon electricity

GMB, the energy union has hailed the jobs an economic boost brought by Hinkley Point C as the nuclear reactor reaches its latest milestone.

EDF has **today announced the completion** of the base for the first reactor, known as “J-zero”, means that the construction of the nuclear buildings above ground can now begin in earnest.

For the 12 months from 7 March 2017, every one in 5.6 days was a low wind day (65 days in total) when the output of the installed and connected wind turbines in the UK produced less than 10% of their



installed and connected capacity for more than half of the day. For 341 days in the year, solar output was below 10% of installed capacity for more than half of the day.

“ #Hinkley Point C has hit its biggest milestone yet – the completion of the base for the first reactor.

This key milestone means that the construction of the nuclear buildings above ground can now begin.

Read more: <https://t.co/6D9GIARIXP> #BuiltByUs pic.twitter.com/rrSQgXonKI

– Hinkley Point C (@edfehinkleyc) June 28, 2019

Justin Bowden, GMB National Secretary for Energy, said:

“The Hinkley Point C project is bringing thousands of jobs, a huge economic boost to the UK and will generate massive amounts of ultra-low carbon electricity for decades to come.

“It is great news that Hinkley Point C is being built and is on time.

“But if the UK is serious about becoming a carbon free economy then, starting with Sizewell C in Suffolk, we need at least another six new nuclear power stations for their reliable electricity as part of a balanced energy mix alongside green hydrogen gas and intermittent sources like wind and solar.”



Jude Brimble, GMB National Secretary for Construction, said:

“In celebrating this major milestone, it’s right we pay tribute to the skills and dedication of the construction teams, who have delivered a highly complex operation on schedule.

“The HPC project demonstrates the value of having a well-trained and highly-skilled construction workforce.

“GMB looks forward to continued working with all HPC stakeholders to ensure the project continues to invest and deliver the skills needed across construction and to build a new generation of nuclear reactor.”

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