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Dear Mr Bramhall,

Thank you for your letter dated 17 July 2017 to Greg Clark and Jeremy Hunt. I am replying as the Minister responsible for nuclear energy.

I would like to thank you for raising the issues of the impact of radiation on public health both in your letter and in the NGO Forum. I understand that the next meeting of the NGO Forum will contain a discussion between your organisation and the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE), which we look forward to facilitating.

I am aware that you have submitted a request for a review of the EPR class of practice under the Justification of Practices Involving Ionising Radiation Regulations 2004. In your letter, you have asked for a response to your application. The Justification Application Centre, in an email of 23 May 2017, undertook to provide such a response by the end of July 2017. This response was provided to you on 26 July 2017, and contains a substantive discussion of the points raised in your justification request concerning issues relating to the effect of radiation on public health. The response was informed by technical scientific advice from Public Health England (PHE). It is therefore unnecessary to repeat that discussion here.

Looking over the remainder of your letter, it provides an account of correspondence between Dr Chris Gibson, the chairman of COMARE, and yourself. I would like to thank you for bringing the substance of that discussion to my attention. Given that the next meeting of the NGO Forum will facilitate an exchange of views involving COMARE and your organisation, I believe that the matter will be best taken forward through that discussion with COMARE. There is nothing that I can substantially add to that correspondence at this stage.

I, and my officials, look forward to the discussion at the NGO Forum.

Richard Harrington - MP

RICHARD HARRINGTON MP
Minister for Energy and Industry