



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Centre stage for nuclear energy**

A major conference in March is going to put nuclear energy firmly under the spotlight, looking at the role it might play in a diversified energy mix and showcasing the range of reactor designs and systems that are available for deployment.

With the Government's energy review now underway the timing of Topnux 2006, which is being hosted by the British Nuclear Energy Society (BNES) at the QEII Conference Centre in London from 21-23 March 2006, could not be better.

Energy Minister Malcolm Wicks, who is leading the energy review, will be guest speaker at the conference. Joining him in what will be an impressive international line-up are the Speaker of the Finnish Parliament and former Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen, French Member of Parliament Claude Birraux, CEO of EDF Pierre Gadonneix and CEO of Westinghouse Steve Tritch. Representative speakers from Japan, China, India, South Africa and South Korea will also be taking the platform. Justin McCracken, HSE Deputy Director General, and the environmentalist James Lovelock will be sharing the stage on the second day.

Dr Sue Ion, President of the BNES, is certain that Topnux 2006 will have a unique contribution to make at this key time in energy policy development. "I'm delighted that so many leading energy industry players, politicians and academics have agreed to be involved. It will provide a great opportunity for all the speakers to inform a balanced debate on the future of nuclear energy, allowing us to learn from international experience as well as considering how to prepare for future skills requirements. All of this will be directly relevant to the energy review and should provide some excellent input into this important debate."

**Notes for Editors**

1. Topnux 2006 will be held in the QEII Conference Centre, London, from 21-23 March 2006. Delegates will be able to hear about latest developments worldwide, the opportunities and challenges of nuclear power, including waste management, and the advantages and benefits of different reactor designs.
2. A parallel exhibition of potential suppliers will be held alongside the conference, including an international showcase for reactor designs currently being considered or commissioned around the world.
3. Full details of the conference, the parallel exhibition and how to register can be found on <http://www.topnux2006.org/>
4. For conference information contact Dionne Bosma on +32 2 505 3054 or [dionne.bosma@euronuclear.org](mailto:dionne.bosma@euronuclear.org) . For exhibition information contact Lisa Jones-Taylor on +44 (0)1946 695554 or [lisa@nu-techassoc.co.uk](mailto:lisa@nu-techassoc.co.uk)