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## Revealed - CND Does Not Think There Are Problems With Restarting Reactor in Gibraltar

In what has turned out to be the most surprising twist in the tale surrounding the issues of a reactor start-up in Gibraltar after repairs are completed on HMS Tireless, the latest comments by CND claim that there is a very low risk when restarting the reactor at berth.

The comments were made by John Ainslie of CND Scotland, following the publication of the latest unconfirmed reports by Iberia News on Tuesday night, and after advise from nuclear experts had been sought during the past few days by Spanish Ecologists groups.

In a message send to Juan Jose Uceda, from the Ecologistas in Accion, and revealed on Tuesday night to Iberia News, John Ainslie states that " Normal practice would be to start up at a berth after a repair. I would expect that they want not just to start up the reactor but also to carry out Power Range Testing which involves a series of tests of the reactor. We know from old Navy manuals that reactor start up and power range testing are the most dangerous stages.

The possibility, though very remote, of a nuclear accident occurring is greater at X berths since at these berths initial criticality, power range testing of nuclear plant are carried out as well as a FAST CRUISE operation for crew training.

- Reactor Accident Course Notes from the old Royal Navy College at Greenwich.

I understand that the Navy are not planning to carry out a Fast Cruise exercise on HMS Tireless.

They can start up at sea if necessary."

The revelation, comes after Ecologistas en Accion requested for advise from experts such as John Shannon, through CND Scotland, and as fear during the past few days had started to increase over the proposed risks a restart of the reactor would pose.

The comments made by CND Scotland, who have in the past held a strong stance against

have in the past held a strong stance against nuclear disarmament and have protected and exposed possible risks within nuclear submarine repair sites in the UK, also comes 24 hours after the 7th Panel of experts report by the Gibraltar Government which clearly indicates the close scrutiny behind the repairs.

Although the latest information received tonight from various sectors involved in the repairs and monitoring the progress of the repairs on HMS Torbay and HMS Tireless continues to support that the Ministry of Defence are a far more advanced stage of repairs than publicised, and indicating that the welding procedures are believed to have been completed in full and the go ahead for test are being awaited, the close scrutiny and monitoring of the repairs has given rise to a wide spread belief that the Ministry of Defence will not attempt to proceed onto any practice or procedure beyond that of testing and restarting the reactor at safe levels.

This would mean that practices such as the FAST CRUISE operation would not be attempted, maintaining the risks at what is considered to be very remote probability of an incident occurring whilst restarting at berth.

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