

# Press Releases - Close Sellafield Now! - 01/05/00

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**Dun Laoghaire Rathdown,  
victim of future**

**Meltdown?**

**Costello launches campaign to  
close Sellafield.**



Recent revelations concerning the falsification of safety records at Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant led to the resignation of the director of the plant and other senior personnel. The reprocessing plant discharges low level radioactive waste into the Irish Sea all year round. The company denies that there is any link between the long-term radioactive emissions and the clusters of cancers identified by research in areas around the reprocessing plant.

"I was extremely worried by the revelations. If we cannot trust the director of the facility to ensure that safety procedures are being followed why should we take any thing they say seriously. We are only approximately 60 miles form this facility. If that plant has even a minor problem we will be in the direct line of any emissions.

When Chernobyl had its disastrous accident the effects were felt thousands of kilometers away. I would not draw a parallel between Chernobyl and Sellafield however the Sellafield plant's safety record is not a record that would inspire confidence. In Ireland we have always strongly resisted any move to use nuclear power on this island but we have a reprocessing plant that does the dirty work for the world's nuclear nations right on our doorstep. It is not acceptable."

"I am organising a petition to send to the UK's Department of Trade and Industry. I think it is important that they realise the extent of disquiet that exists in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown on this issue. I am sending out booklets to all the schools and libraries in the County. If people can't get to their local library please send my their views directly (Eoin Costello, Abberley, Killiney, Co. Dublin) so that I can forward these with the petition."