

By our Political correspondent **Nat Hunter**



A part of the Highlands may have to remain in the UK if Scotland votes to become independent, it was claimed yesterday.

A committee of MPs heard the Dounreay nuclear facility on the northern coast of Caithness could be turned into a sovereign site belonging to England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

International relations expert William Walker said the future of Dounreay must be considered as part of the debate over what would happen to the Faslane and Coulport nuclear weapons bases on the Clyde if Scotland decides to go it alone in 2014.

The St Andrews University professor was giving evidence to the Scottish affairs committee on Separation for Scotland at Westminster which is chaired by the infamous Ian Davidson MP.

The future of the UK's nuclear weapons is a key issue in the independence debate, with the SNP opposed to them being based in the country.



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