



## Environment Matters – 16 June 2006

### Welcome to the latest edition of Aardvark's fortnightly news briefing

- **Ministers Support World Environment Day** Environment Secretary David Miliband and Climate Change Minister Ian Pearson have attended events celebrating World Environment Day on Monday, June 5. Speaking at the launch of the BIG Recycle campaign, Mr Miliband called on football fans to recycle the 340 million drinks cans and bottles they are set to consume while watching World Cup matches on television. ([Defra 5/06/06](#))
- **Renewables Need Planning Support** Local Authorities will be urged to support renewable energy measures in their developments, Housing and Planning Minister Yvette Cooper has announced. The request follows a Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) survey of councils that found many were adopting new renewable requirements in their planning ([Green Consumer Guide 12/06/06](#))
- **HBF Responds To Calls For Increased Microgeneration** "We welcome the growing public debate about how the development industry can most effectively move towards a lower carbon future. Viable local micro-generation and renewables schemes should be facilitated, but a multiplicity of different local policies would complicate industry's ability to innovate. The test must be what is appropriate on a site-by-site basis. This must include site viability and should be focused on delivery." ([Home Builders Federation 09/06/06](#))
- **Schools 'Must Be Green By 2020'** Schools must become more "carbon neutral" by 2020 by reducing pollution and encouraging children to walk or cycle from home, the government says. Education Secretary Alan Johnson also called for lower water and energy use, with some schools in England using solar panels and wind turbines ([BBC News 15/05/06](#))
- **Global 100 – The 2006 List** The 2006 Global 100 list of the world's most sustainable companies has been published. British companies make up 30% of the list, by far the largest representation. However one company featured in the Global 100 also made it onto the Toxic 100 list of the worlds most polluting companies! ([Global 100.org 2006](#))
- **Tough Action On New Housing Required To Avert Water Crisis** WWF welcomed a tough new report published 06 June from the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee criticising the government for failing to take the challenges of water management more seriously. Dr Tom Le Quesne, WWF Freshwater Policy Officer said: "Water supply is on a knife-edge. Unless immediate attention is given to the issues of environmental sustainability, the government's house-building plans threaten to suck the South-east of England dry. Stringent water efficiency measures must be introduced as part of a package of compulsory sustainability requirements for new-build housing in the growth areas." ([WWF-UK 5/06/06](#))

### Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- **Contaminated Land Assessment** Aardvark have been taking advantage of the fine weather and been out on the water taking sediment samples on three sites across the south of the UK as part of contaminated land assessments for lake restoration schemes. Following analysis of the samples, Aardvark will advise on the most appropriate remediation and disposal strategy as determined by the results.
- For all the latest Aardvark news go to [www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk)

### And Finally

- **England Would Win 'Litter World Cup'** A survey from litter charity Keep Britain Tidy has found that a high number of English people are 'ashamed' of the state of the country's streets and if there was such a thing as a 'Litter World Cup' awarded for the amount of rubbish discarded – England would be clear winners. The results of the questionnaire found that 70% of people were unhappy with the situation, and other nations are perceived to be cleaner with their waste ([The Green Consumer Guide 7/06/06](#))