



Environment Matters –1st December 2006

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Environmental industries vital for 21st century society - Minister** The Minister with responsibility for climate change issues has praised the progress of the UK's environmental sector and said it will play a key role in years to come. ([EDIE 23/11/06](#))
- **Ten years to cure 'water crisis'** Britain's water systems are in crisis and the government has a decade to put things right, according to a coalition of conservation and angling groups. They are setting out a 10-point plan to make UK water systems sustainable, including fair pricing, slashing waste and upgrading sewerage facilities. ([BBC News 28/11/06](#))
- **Windfarm scoops green award** A windfarm created and operated by ScottishPower Renewables has won a prestigious environmental award, it has been announced. The Black Law windfarm, which was completed earlier this year, won the best large company in the West of Scotland category and will now be submitted for the Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) National Award next week. ([Green Consumer Guide 27/11/06](#))
- **Carbon emissions show sharp rise** The rise in humanity's emissions of carbon dioxide has accelerated sharply, according to a new analysis. The Global Carbon Project says that emissions were rising by less than 1% annually up to the year 2000, but are now rising at 2.5% per year. ([BBC News 27/11/06](#))
- **Ethical Spending Booms, Says Co-op** The amount spent on "ethical" products in the UK is said to have overtaken over-the-counter sales of beer and cigarettes for the first time. The value of ethical consumerism hit a record high of £29.3bn in 2005, according to the Co-op. ([Ananova 27/11/06](#))
- **EU Set To Get Tough On States' CO2 Emissions Plans** Brussels - The European Commission will likely force European countries on Wednesday to set tighter emissions limits on industry to repair the battered credibility of EU efforts to fight climate change. ([Planetark 28/11/06](#))
- **Adapting to Climate Change week: 4-8th December** From 4th December, it's 'Adapting to Climate Change Week' in the South West. Organised by SWCCIP and partner organisations, throughout the week you will be able to hear about how we need to adapt to the impacts of unavoidable climate change, get hold of information and advice on practical steps you can take to prepare for the challenges and realise any opportunities that adapting to climate change can bring to your business or organisation. ([SWCCIP 01/12/06](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- Aardvark this week presented the mobile reedbed system to the National Parks Farm Liaison Officers workshop, held this year on Exmoor, featured in the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group's Quarterly Journal and been shortlisted for the BCE Awards (Business Commitment to the Environment) an independent awards scheme, showcasing environmental excellence.
- For all the latest Aardvark news logon to www.aardvarkem.co.uk

And finally

- **'Walking to school' fund launched** A new funding package designed to promote sustainable ways for children to get to school has been announced this week. The £15m boost will be aimed primarily at setting up 'walking bus' schemes around the country, but will also cover other green transport initiatives. ([Green Consumer Guide 23/11/06](#))