



Environment Matters – 16th March 2007

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Brown and Cameron outline green plans** Gordon Brown and David Cameron have set out their competing visions for tackling environmental pollution and climate change. Ahead of the publication of the government's Draft Climate Change Bill, the clash over which party is the greenest signals that the environment will be a crucial battleground at the next general election. ([ePoltix.com 12/03/07](#))
- **Britain could be first country to put legal limits on carbon emissions** Plans to make Britain the first country in the world to set legally binding limits on its carbon pollution were announced yesterday when ministers unveiled their draft climate change bill. Under the proposed legislation the UK will have to reduce its emissions of carbon dioxide by 60% by 2050, with an interim target of at least 26% by 2020. ([Guardian Unlimited 14/03/07](#))
- **Global Warming Affecting Investors' Decisions** Global warming is starting to impact upon investors' decisions, a study shows. A total 62 percent of active investors say global warming could affect their investment decisions, following the UK's warmest 12-month period on record. ([Planet Ark 15/03/07](#))
- **Web-portal to spread climate adaptation measures** Climate adaptation experts have unanimously agreed to create an open-access web portal to provide information about climate change for those who must cope with its impacts. The aim is to share ideas as and when they become available, says Saleemul Huq, director of the climate change programme at the UK-based International Institute for Environment and Development. ([SciDev Net 07/03/07](#))
- **Destruction of forests in developing world 'out of control'** Progress in forest management in the industrial world is being overwhelmed by accelerating deforestation in the developing world, a global report from the United Nations has revealed. Many countries in Europe and North America have been able to reverse centuries of deforestation and even, in some cases, increase their forest cover, according to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). ([The Independent 14/03/07](#))
- **English waste strategy delayed until May** DEFRA's long-awaited new waste strategy for England is now expected to be published in May, a senior Department official said yesterday. Neil Thornton, the Department's director for environment, quality and waste, made the announcement as he addressed delegates at a Chartered Institution of Wastes Management event in London. ([Letsrecycle.com 15/03/07](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- The optimum time for Ecology, Wildlife and Biodiversity Phase 1 Surveys is upon us again and addressing these issues at the earliest opportunity in the development and planning process to determine the best approach in relation to protected species is likely to save time and money later on. Aardvark also undertakes surveys, mitigation and enhancement plans throughout the planning process to address conditions proposed or attached to a planning consent or to meet BREEAM or EcoHomes criteria.
- For the latest Aardvark news logon to www.aardvarkem.co.uk

And finally

- **Bio-plastic bag boom 'imminent'** 'Eco-plastic bags' are about to get greener with a new process that replaces petrol derivatives with sunflower oil. The new material will make its entry just as vegetable-derived plastic market is set to rocket, with both France and Italy soon to ban single-use non-biodegradable bags. ([EDIE 08/03/07](#))