



Environment Matters – 6th July 2007

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **EU ministers discuss Waste Directive** European environment ministers are meeting in Luxembourg today, in an attempt to hammer out an agreement on the EU's ground rules for waste management. (letsrecycle.com 28/06/07)
- **Brown appoints Hilary Benn as Environment Secretary** On his first full day as Prime Minister, Gordon Brown announced Hilary Benn's appointment as the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Secretary following David Miliband's move to become Foreign Secretary. (MRW 28/06/07)
- **Pay farmers to build flood defence, say Tories** Farmers and water companies would be given new responsibilities for flood defence by a Conservative government, under proposals to be announced tomorrow. (The Telegraph 02/07/07)
- **Google Solar Panel Project** In October 2006, Google announced a commitment to solar energy production and launched the largest solar panel installation to date on a corporate campus in the United States. (google.com)
- **Affordable eco-homes 'to inspire others'** The first fruits of former Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott's £60,000 house challenge are starting to pop up across the UK. Among the first schemes to be built as part of the 'Design for Manufacture' competition is George Wimpey's 145-home development at Oxley Woods and Milton Keynes. (IEMA 03/07/07)
- **International climate change expert is Defra's new Chief Scientific Adviser** A World Bank Chief Scientist and former White House Advisor has been appointed the next Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) for Defra. Robert Watson will join the department in September from the World Bank where he is currently Chief Scientist and Senior Advisor for Sustainable Development. (Defra 05/07/07)

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- On behalf of a private residential developer, Aardvark has been instructed to deliver an energy statement for a new housing development in Surrey. The scheme, which comprises twelve 4-bed houses, must demonstrate that a minimum of 10% of the energy requirement is provided by renewable resources to meet the *Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation* Policy in the Surrey Structure Plan.
- For the latest Aardvark news logon to www.aardvarkem.co.uk

And finally,

- **Tesco's long distance 'local' milk** Tesco's 'Local Choice' milk is described as supporting 'small local farms near to where you live'. It might be true if you live in Lincolnshire or Derbyshire, where the milk is produced but if you live in Hereford it's the same milk - from 150 miles down the road. (New Consumer 05/07/07)



Environment Matters – 6th July 2007