



## Environment Matters – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007

### Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Defra to get £4 billion a year by 2010** The budget for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) will rise from £3.5 billion to nearly £4 billion a year by 2010. ([RWM 10/10/07](#))
- **Cutting red tape will help businesses and protect the environment** Businesses will find it simpler and less costly to be environmentally responsible under new environmental permit regulations. Environmental permits are required for industrial and waste activities which could harm human health or the environment unless they are controlled. ([Defra 10/10/07](#))
- **UK government to provide more funds for low carbon technologies** The UK government has announced that an extra £170 million will be provided for cross-government Environmental Transformation Fund (ETF) purposes. As a result, government investment in the commercialisation of low carbon technologies in the UK will now exceed £370 million over the next three years. ([Fuel Cell Today 10/10/07](#))
- **Gore climate film's 'nine errors'** A High Court judge who ruled on whether climate change film, An Inconvenient Truth, could be shown in schools said it contains "nine scientific errors". ([BBC News 11/10/07](#))
- **NHS Energy Efficiency Programme** Energy efficiency company Enersol have teamed up with healthcare management specialists Meridian Productivity to deliver an energy efficiency solutions programme developed specifically for the NHS. ([EDIE 11/10/07](#))
- **UK moves slowly to implement Stern advice** UK finance minister Alistair Darling announced new policies and proposals this week aimed at further implementing the findings of the Stern Review on the economics of climate change. ([Environmental Finance 11/10/07](#))
- **Eco-shoppers reject supermarket food** Research funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) showed that many consumers who prefer to get their food from sources such as organic vegetable boxes, community gardens and farm animal adoption, were motivated by ethical reasons. ([EDIE 11/10/07](#))

### Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- Competition fever has hit the Aardvark team who have recently collaborated with Artillery Architects to enter into a competition to design a new **Bat House** at the London Wetlands Centre in SW London and with a local consortium of property professionals to redevelop **Birnbeck Island** in Weston-super-Mare as a world class tourist destination.
- For the latest Aardvark news logon to [www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk)

### And finally,

- **What you pay for all this every year will be an electric shock** If you are one of the people who still irons their clothes, are you aware that an hour's hard graft with a standard steam iron consumes around 22p worth of electricity? ([Guardian Unlimited 06/10/07](#))