

Environment Matters – 7 April 2005

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

- **Government failing on energy policy as CO2 emissions rise again** Carbon dioxide emissions rose again last year and have risen for five of the past seven years, despite Tony Blair's promise to put climate change at the heart of policy decisions and the setting of ambitious reduction targets. ([EDIE 01/04/03](#))
- **Designation of more Specials Areas of Conservation** The 236 Sites of Community Importance (SCI) in England recently adopted by the European Commission for the Atlantic Region have today been designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Nature Conservation Minister, Ben Bradshaw, announced today. ([DEFRA 01/04/05](#))
- **North Devon Holiday Park fined for discharging sub-standard sewage effluent** A North Devon holiday park was today ordered to pay £6,935 in fines and costs for failing to comply with the terms of its sewage discharge consent. The case was brought by the Environment Agency. ([Environment Agency 31/03/05](#))
- **Trial to turn oily road sweepings into compost is big success** Research conducted by ADAS has revealed great potential for composting Britain's soil-sodden road sweepings which could result in major financial savings for local authorities. The study evaluated the effectiveness of composting and other methods as a means of treating road sweepings to remove hydrocarbon contamination from oil, petrol and diesel. ([The Environment Times 04/04/05](#))

To Watch Out For

- **European Union Emissions Trading Scheme** The Government has published a document informing stakeholders of the UK Government approach to the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) Phase II (2008–2012) and details of current consultancy work. ([DEFRA 31/03/05](#))
- **The Environmental Stewardship (England) Regulations 2005** came into force on 2nd April 2005. Environmental Stewardship (ES) will be launched in England in 2005 to replace the existing agri-environment schemes. ES has been developed with a high level of public consultation and contributions from stakeholder organisations. ([HMSO 03/04/05](#))
- **Landfill Allowances and Trading Schemes (LATS)** England launches the world's first allowance trading scheme for municipal waste in April 2005. The Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme aims to give local authorities flexibility in meeting tough Landfill Directive targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill sites. All Waste Disposal Authorities will be able to trade, bank and borrow allowances from 1 April 2005. ([Environment Agency 01/04/05](#))
- **Hazardous Waste Regulations set to improve tracking of hazardous waste** New Hazardous Waste Regulations for England were laid in Parliament which introduces new and simpler procedures for tracking the movement of hazardous waste. The new regulations replace the Special Waste Regulations 1996 in England and fully meet the requirements of the European Hazardous Waste Directive. ([DEFRA 24/03/05](#))

And finally

- **London left underwater without climate action** The Houses of Parliament were flooded this week – with a projected image of where the Thames water level would be in 100 years if climate change. In a stunt by the WWF, water was projected halfway up the side of the historic building, along with the message "Vote to stop climate change" urging politicians to take a tougher stance on this global problem. ([EDIE 01/04/05](#))