



Environment Matters – 26th October 2007

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Labour's plan to abandon renewable energy targets** Ministers are planning a U-turn on Britain's pledges to combat climate change that "effectively abolishes" its targets to rapidly expand the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power. ([Guardian Unlimited 23/10/07](#))
- **Draft guidance issued on validating planning applications** The Government has issued draft guidance for English planning authorities on best practice for the validation of planning applications. ([Planning Portal 16/08/07](#))
- **Devon's largest wind farm agreed** Government approval has been granted today for Devon's largest windfarm. Energy minister Malcolm Wicks announced that the 66W Fullabrook Down wind project in north Devon can go ahead. ([inthenews.co.uk 09/10/07](#))
- **Environment Agency launches new tool to help reduce carbon footprint from construction projects** A new online tool that will help construction companies plan carbon-wise projects and reduce their carbon footprint ([The Environment Agency 22/10/07](#))
- **UK set to smash recycling targets for packaging** New figures issued this week reveal that the UK is on course to smash its recycling and recovery targets for packaging waste this year, writes James Cartledge. ([letsrecycle.com 25/10/07](#))
- **First compost 'product' certified** The Composting Association and WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) are delighted to announce that Vital Earth (Derby) Ltd's composting facility at Ashbourne is the first to achieve PAS 100 and Quality Compost Protocol certification. ([Materials Handling World 24/10/07](#))
- **Sarkozy's green revolution in danger of producing nothing more than hot air** President Nicolas Sarkozy promises to add a green stripe to the French tricolour today in a speech which will place France at the cutting edge of the fight against global warming. ([The Independent 25/10/07](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- As part of Aardvark's advisory role to Urban Splash at Lakeshore, Bristol, the de-silting work has now been started. As well as a traditional de-silting lagoon, six of the Aardvark designed 'Gtubes' to retain and filter silt from the pumping works are also being used, allowing clean water back to the lake. Each 'Gtube' is 30m long and 7m in diameter and capable of holding 450m³ of silt.
- For the latest Aardvark news logon to www.aardvarkem.co.uk

And finally,

- **Please set your clock to 'British green time'** Turning the clocks back each winter causes a surge in Britain's greenhouse gas emissions and adds millions of pounds to power bills, according to a new study by Cambridge University engineers. ([The Times 21/10/07](#))