



Environment Matters – 1st February 2008

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Wind industry welcomes energy 'revolution'** The British Wind Energy Association (BWEA), which represent is the UK's wind, wave and tidal industries has welcomed the EU Commission's announcement that Britain should supply 15 per cent of its energy from renewable sources by 2020. ([Engineer Live 29/01/08](#))
- **Only three sustainable homes built in UK so far** Gordon Brown's dream of "eco-towns" with tens of thousands of homes powered by wind and solar power has failed to grip the public's imagination. ([The Independent 27/01/08](#))
- **Carbon emissions show slight fall** The UK's carbon emissions fell by just 0.1% last year, and the government has admitted it must do more to tackle climate change. ([BBC News 31/01/08](#))
- **Adair Turner Is Appointed to Head U.K. Climate-Change Committee** The U.K. named former Merrill Lynch & Co. executive Adair Turner to head its Committee on Climate Change, which will advise the government on targets to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions. ([Bloomberg 28/01/08](#))
- **EU sets tough green energy target** The European Commission has set a tough new target for renewable energy production for the UK. Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso announced "historic" plans to make Europe "the first economy for the low-carbon age". ([ePoltix 23/01/08](#))
- **Chinese dams threaten Cambodian eco-systems: group** Cambodia's two largest dam projects threaten to flood huge swathes of protected forests ([Yahoo News 29/01/08](#))
- **Regional sustainable development indicators for the English regions** Regional versions of the UK Government's indicators of sustainable development are published today to help provide a perspective of sustainable development in each region. ([DEFRA 31/01/08](#))
- **Climate 'could devastate crops'** Climate change could cause severe crop losses in South Asia and southern Africa over the next 20 years, a study in the journal Science says. The findings suggest southern Africa could lose more than 30% of its main crop, maize, by 2030. ([BBC News 31/01/08](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- The Aardvark team has delivered a sustainable surface water drainage strategy for a proposed new residential development in Devon. The scheme which will seek to attenuate surface water runoff, in particular during storm events will use a system of swales, permeable surface finishes to roads and pathways and 'grasscrete' to control the flow of water offsite.
- For the latest Aardvark news and services logon to our new interactive website at www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

And finally,

- **Waitrose store runs on 'tomato power'** Green Energy UK, is using 'tomato power' to provide a new Waitrose shop with all its power. The Rickmansworth store runs on electricity produced entirely through growing tomatoes. ([New Consumer 29/01/08](#))