



## Environment Matters – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2008

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

- **New guidance to help protect environment from construction works near watercourses** Construction and maintenance companies who work in or near watercourses are being reminded that pollution incidents are avoidable by careful planning. ([Environment Agency 11/02/08](#))
- **Setback for Darling's 'green fund' initiative** The Chancellor, Alistair Darling, has failed, so far, in his attempt to persuade all of the G7 group of leading economies to create, in collaboration with the World Bank, a "green fund" for emerging and developing nations to draw upon as their economies advance. ([The Independent 11/02/08](#))
- **True scale of CO2 emissions from shipping revealed** The true scale of climate change emissions from shipping is almost three times higher than previously believed, according to a leaked UN study seen by the Guardian. ([The Guardian 13/02/08](#))
- **Hotels and restaurants ignorant of waste legislation** The hotel and restaurant sectors are among the most ignorant when it comes to legislation surrounding the disposal of electronic waste. ([Caterersearch.com 13/02/08](#))
- **Call for tougher planning laws** Tougher planning controls are needed if flood insurance is to remain widely available for new homes, an insurance trade body has warned. The Association of British Insurers (ABI) said a third of the three million new homes the Government planned to build by 2020 would be on a flood plain. ([The Press Association 14/02/08](#))
- **Waste scheme goes ahead despite DEFRA's budget cuts** Farming will continue to play a key role in the government's recycling push despite a decision to slash funding for its Waste and Resource Action Programme. ([Farmers Weekly Interactive 12/02/08](#))
- **Luxury towers to generate own power** A pair of luxury apartment blocks next to London's Canary Wharf are set to use a state-of-the-art heating scheme to reduce the building's carbon footprint. ([EDIE 12/02/08](#))

### Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- Aardvark along with property consultancy Carver Knowles, has been asked to deliver a series of carbon appraisal events across the South West region as part of Business Link's Sus Biz programme. Sus Biz (Sustainable Business) aims to help smaller local food and drink businesses in the South West gain financial and environmental benefits as a result of improving efficiency in the way they work, reducing the energy they consume and minimising the waste they create.
- For the latest Aardvark news and services logon to our new interactive website at [www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk).

### And finally,

- **Five-seat concept car runs on air** An engineer has promised that within a year he will start selling a car that runs on compressed air, producing no emissions at all in town. The OneCAT will be a five-seater with a glass fibre body, weighing just 350kg and could cost just over £2,500. ([BBC News 13/02/08](#))