

Environment Matters – 21 April 2005

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

- **Energy from waste must not be overlooked say industry experts** The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and the Renewable Power Association (RPA) have issued a joint report showing the huge potential for greater generation of energy from waste. The report concludes that there is the opportunity for certain types of waste to produce up to 17% of electricity generated in the UK by 2020. ([RPA 21/04/05](#))
- **Commission formally rejects UK request for increased emissions levels** The European Commission has formally rejected the request from the UK to increase the number of emissions allowances to be granted to UK companies in the country's national allocation plan. The UK made the request for extra allowances last October despite the Commission having initially approved a far lower level in July. ([EDIE 15/04/05](#))
- **£284m scheme to help cut business waste and improve resource efficiency** A new £284 million initiative to help businesses manage resources more efficiently and cut waste has been launched by Environment Minister Elliot Morley. The Business Resource Efficiency and Waste (BREW) programme recycles revenue generated through increases in Landfill Tax to fund a range of free services and targeted support for businesses. ([DEFRA 8/04/05](#))
- **Public inquiry into wind farm development gets underway** Evidence has been submitted to the public inquiry of the proposed Whinash wind farm in Cumbria, which started on 19 April 2005. The inquiry is expected to be pivotal for the future of wind farms in rural areas, weighing the visual impact of the turbines against the benefits of tackling climate change by producing significant amounts of renewable energy. ([Friends of the Earth 13/04/05](#)) and ([BBC Cumbria 21/04/05](#))

To Watch Out For

- **New rules on hazardous waste** The first part of the Hazardous Waste Regulations came into force on 16 April 2005, with the requirement, "*where hazardous waste is produced at, or removed from, any premises other than exempt premises, the premises must be notified to the Environment Agency...*" This means that any businesses producing hazardous waste have a legal duty to register with the Environment Agency any premises where hazardous waste is produced. ([Environment Agency 16/04/05](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- **Support for Affordable Housing Development** Aardvark have recently completed an instruction from a Housing Association to undertake ecology/habitat surveys of two development sites in Somerset for the construction of Affordable Housing.
- **IPPC Application Submitted** Aardvark has recently completed an IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) application within the Dairy Sector. This has been received by the Environment Agency and commended at its initial review.
- **Visit www.aardvarkem.co.uk for all the latest news from the team.**

And finally

- **South West England consumes three times too much** A new report measuring the 'ecological footprint', the impact of a region on natural resources, has revealed that the South West of England is soaking up nearly three times its share of available resources. In other words if everyone in the world lived like an average resident of the South West we would need three planets instead of just one. ([The Environment Times 18/04/05](#))