



Environment Matters – 28th March 2008

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **Landfill reliance reducing shows new report** Nearly 20% less waste has been sent to landfill since 2001 shows a report out today (Wednesday) from the Environment Agency. Martin Brocklehurst, Head of External Programmes at the Environment Agency, said: "Over 15.5 million tonnes of waste has been diverted away from landfill and into recycling facilities between 2001 and 2006. ([Environment Agency 26/03/08](#))
- **Newts keep couple out of £1m farmhouse** Breeding newts could stop a couple moving back into their £1m farmhouse after they were flooded out in last summer's storms. John and Margie Histed have spent £250,000 repairing their 300-year-old Grade II listed house in Dauntsey, Wiltshire, after it was inundated by rising water last July. ([The Guardian 27/03/08](#))
- **UK push for big nuclear expansion** Business secretary John Hutton has called for a "significant expansion" in Britain's nuclear power industry. In a speech to the Unite trade union, he argued the industry should go beyond replacing its 23 ageing reactors, which provide 20% of the UK's electricity. ([BBC News 26/03/08](#))
- **Govt 'still failing' on sustainable development** Government departments across Whitehall are failing to meet their carbon emission reduction targets, a report finds. The Sustainable Development Commission's annual assessment of the government's progress notes emissions are down four per cent on 1999/2000 levels. ([politics.co.uk 18/03/08](#))
- **Allco Wants to Turn Former Toxic Waste Dump into Solar Energy Farm** New York-based Allco Renewable Energy wants to build the largest solar energy farm east of the Mississippi river. Their chosen location is in Coventry, Rhode Island, on land that gained infamy in the 1970s as an illegal hazardous waste dump and which became a Superfund site in the 1980s. ([Treehugger.com 26/03/08](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- Aardvark has been instructed to undertake the feasibility appraisal, design and planning and permitting advice for a new 1.3MWe Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility. The facility will be fed by an existing effluent waste stream derived from the applicants food manufacturing business with the generated energy exported to the grid. This is the first of three proposed AD facilities in the south west that Aardvark has been instructed to advise on, reflecting the increasing interest in locally generated renewable energy.
- For the latest Aardvark news and services logon to our new interactive website at www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

And finally,

- **'Jet-setting' government clocked up 300 million air miles last year** Ministers were accused of hypocrisy and extravagance after the Conservatives calculated that Whitehall departments and major public bodies clocked up more than 300 million "air miles" last year. ([The Independent 25/03/08](#))