



Environment Matters – 10 May 2005

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

- **The Government is set to miss its 20% carbon-reduction goal by 2010:** policy changes will be needed in response to the eagerly-awaited Climate Change Review, if it is to achieve its objective. Even with the measures in the Climate Change Programme (CCP) and the UK's membership of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) since January 2005, the Government's 20% domestic carbon-reduction goal by 2010 is likely to be missed by a wide margin, unless the allocation of permits is considerably reduced in Phase 2. ([Cambridge Econometrics 9/05/05](#))
- **Composting Industry Continues to Flourish and Diversify** The amount of material being composted in the UK increased by 20% between 2001/2 and 2003/4 according to The Composting Association's latest survey of the composting industry. Of the 1.97 million tonnes (Mt) of material, processed at 325 composting facilities, 73% was household waste, 4% municipal non-household waste and 23% commercial wastes. ([Composting Association 3/05/05](#))
- **Poll finds people do not want high-density brownfield housing** A poll conducted by the House Builders Federation shows widespread concern over brownfield building and has called for greater flexibility over planning guidance to include greenfield land where necessary. ([EDIE 6/05/05](#))
- **The growing field of environmental economics** Environmental entries are starting to appear on the balance sheet. Perhaps soon the best things in life will not be free. ([The Economist 23/04/05](#))
- **New Zealand world first for carbon tax** New Zealand has become the first country in the world to introduce a direct carbon tax to address the issues of global warming. As of April 2007 the average New Zealand household will pay about NZ\$4 per week extra across electricity, petrol and other fuels. ([EDIE 6/05/05](#))

To Watch Out For

- **Hazardous Waste Tracking** The Hazardous Waste Regulations come into force on July 16, 2005. Many wastes have been newly designated as 'hazardous'. As a result some businesses will need to change their waste disposal practices and comply with the new rules to stay within the law. Further information is available from [The Environment Agency](#). ([Environmental Manager April 2005](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- **New In-Vessel-Composting Facility for Somerset** Aardvark has recently completed a project support role for Wyvern Waste's new In-vessel-Composting facility at their landfill site at Dimmer. Aardvark provided the environmental assessment, planning and wastes licensing parts of the project for a 35,000 tonne per year system to include two types of In Vessel technology - batch and continuous flow. (www.aardvarkem.co.uk)

And finally

- **BIG BIRD RACE 2005** The starting gate has been raised on the Ladbrokes.com Big Bird Race and the flight for The Duke of Edinburgh's Challenge Cup is on. All 17 Tasmanian Shy Albatrosses (Tsars) are saddled up with their electronic jockeys (transmitters) and most have begun their arduous migration. (<http://www.ladbrokes.com/bigbirdrace/index.html>)
- **Hen-vironmental** More than 2,000 families have been given three chickens each by their local council in Diest, Belgium with orders to feed them on rubbish to cut down on landfill. ([The Sun 26/04/04](#))