



## Environment Matters – 24 May 2005

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

- **Wind farms 'must take root in UK'** Wind power must be made to work in the UK in order to combat climate change, a report by the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) has said. The report maintains it is possible to meet the government's target to have renewable energy sources provide 10% of the UK's electricity by 2010. ([BBC News and Sustainable Development Commission UK 19/05/05](#))
- **Environmental bills welcome but do not go far enough** New legislation proposed for the next session of Parliament has received a mixed response. The Queen's Speech outlined new legislation, the introduction of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Bill which would create a new catch-all agency, Natural England, and a draft Marine Bill looking at the sustainable management of our seas. ([EDIE 20/05/05](#))
- **16 MW Wind Farm for Cambridgeshire** The Co-operative Group and Scottish Power are teaming up to build a 16MW wind farm at Coldham in Cambridgeshire, which will provide enough green energy to power almost 10,000 homes. The eight-turbine wind farm will produce energy, which would require the release of 35,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year if generated by conventional means. ([IEMA News 19/05/05](#))
- **Compost Firm breaches waste licence** An inspection and audit this week found that Hinton Organics was storing excessive volumes and height of waste. There was almost 50 percent more waste than authorised and the material smelled strongly up to quarter of a mile away from the composting operation at Queen Charlton Quarry near Bristol. The waste was also not being stored on a sealed concrete pad. ([Environment Agency 20/05/05](#))

### To Watch Out For

- **Reporting on Environmental Risk** When new company regulations become law on 1 April 2006, London stock market listed companies will have to report in detail on their environmental risks. Directors must make clear what risks their companies pose to the environment and how they are managing these risks to reduce their impact. ([IEMA News 18/05/05](#))

### Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- **Flood Risk Assessment gaining importance** The Aardvark team has recorded a significant increase recently in enquiries for flood risk advice from developers, landowners and occupiers of both commercial and residential property in the South West. The team have received three enquiries since the last edition of 'Environment Matters' alone. Contact the Aardvark team for further information. ([www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk))

### And finally

- **BIG BIRD RACE 2005 UPDATE** The field has been sadly depleted by the recent deaths of three more birds. This rate of survival is quite normal as nature is the harshest of judges, underlining the absolute urgency in curtailing the catastrophic additional effects of long lining on their chances of survival to adulthood. The race has a new leader, Ronnie O'Sullivan's 'The Rocket'. (<http://www.ladbrokes.com/bigbirdrace/bettingandform.html> 24/05/05)
- **Which party leader produced most hot air during election?** It has been calculated that the leaders of the three main political parties will have produced over 338 tonnes of carbon dioxide in their chase for votes. That would fill over 300 hot air balloons. Michael Howard clocked up 11,680 miles, Tony Blair over 11,015 miles and Charles Kennedy 9,937 miles. ([The Environment Times 11/05/05](#))