

GreenerJobsAlliance

Newsletter 70

March 2025

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Editorial; If the future is to be bright, it can't be orange

It's all too often the case that the scale of the invective in an argument is in inverse proportion to the strength of the argument.

The delusions of the greenlash being energetically promoted by the Trump administration and his UK fifth column are necessarily strident.

So, the response of the Fossil Press to the latest Climate Change Committee Report, “*delusional clowns*” (*The Sun*) “*Drill baby drill*” (*Daily Mail*) “*divorced from reality*” (*Daily Telegraph*) is characteristically, as they say, “*swivel eyed*”.

When even the Murdoch owned Times has to argue for “*the need for the continuing expansion of renewable energy to reduce the UK’s reliance on imported gas*” and that “*the construction of more wind turbines is critical for reducing bills*”, it shows that the fossil argument has to rely on disavowal, insults and deflections.

The [CCC pointing out](#) that cutting emissions 87% by 2040 would help cut household costs by £1400, and that the overall costs of reaching the Net Zero target at its current pace will be just 0.2% of GDP (£4 billion a year), 73% lower than previously projected, blows a gigantic hole in the Anti Net Zero Zealots’ argument that “*Tchh, its gonna cost ya!*”

With [PWC reporting](#) that the share of large businesses committing to achieving net zero emissions by 2030 has almost doubled - from 28% to 47% in the last year - and at the same time, the CBI producing a report that noted that what it called “*the net zero economy*”, which includes renewable energy, electric vehicles, heat pumps, energy storage, green finance and waste management and recycling

- Employs a million people across the country, with the West Midlands, Yorkshire and the Humber, and south-west England containing the largest hotspots of activity, and net zero jobs increasing by 20% in Scotland since 2022.
- Grew 3 times faster than the rest of the economy last year
- Pays wages, at £43,000 p.a. on average; £5,600 higher than the national average.
- Has 38% higher productivity than the UK average.

Describing 2025 as a “*tipping point*” year, when “*the rubber really hits the road*”, it shows the absurdity of the retreat of Trump, Reform and the Conservatives away from the generational challenge of securing our future. It is also warning to those in the Labour and trade union movement that are bending to their pressure, and underlines the urgency of mobilising for the trade union year of climate action to consign them all to history.

Paul Atkin Ed

Quotes of the Month:

*We should acknowledge what a remarkable moment it is that the government of the most powerful country on Earth, at least for the moment, is rejecting flat-out the science that’s been developed over many decades, often by scientists working for the government, about the single most dangerous thing that’s ever happened in human history. And the level of irresponsibility, indeed just craziness, is off the charts. **Bill McKibbon** (from an interview on Yale 360 on [climate activism under Trump 2](#) that is well worth read).*

*“Insist that though the world burns, and there is more fire to come, it will always be worth teaching children to rejoice.” **Katherine Rundell***

SunDay.

On the weekend of September 20th and 21st 2025 350.org and others are going to come together to celebrate power from the sun — the rays that fall on those solar panels - and the wind that turns those majestic turbines.

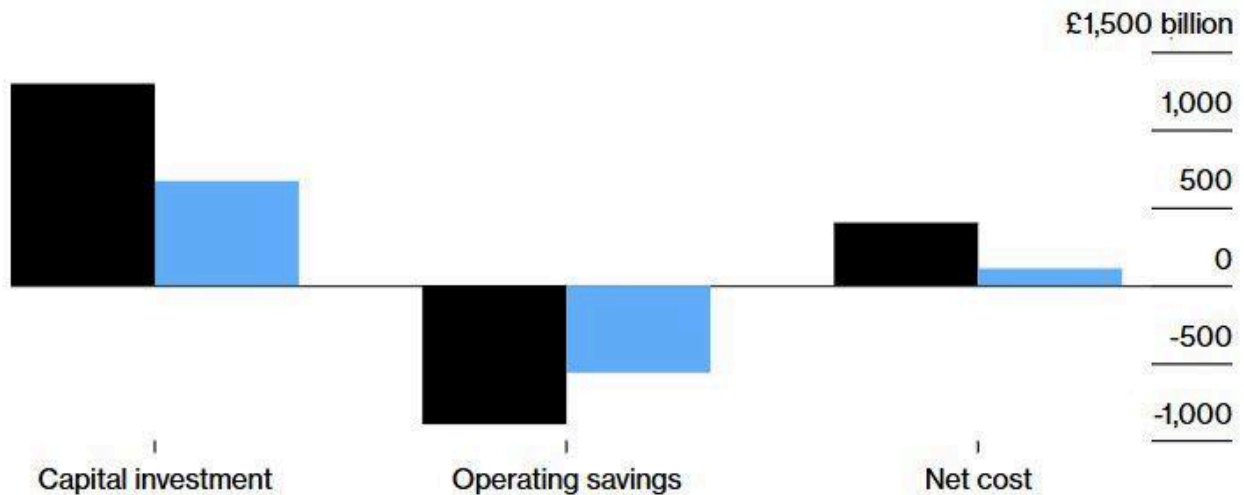
Please save those dates — [check it out here.](#)

This could be the first public event in the trade union year of action.

The UK's Net-Zero Costs Are Falling

Reaching net zero by 2050 will now be much cheaper compared to the previous estimate from the UK's climate watchdog

■ 2020 estimate ■ 2025 estimate



Source: Climate Change Committee

Note: Costs cover the period between 2025 and 2050

This indicates that a greater level of investment could accelerate the pace and scale of the transition.

Military carbon footprint set to stamp harder

“Investment in the military is steeply going up, and they are responsible for 5.5% of world emissions. If we’re going up from 2.5% to 5% spending then probably these emissions will double at least... That 5% will become 10%, 20%. Just imagine what an F35 uses in kerosene.”

Lennard de Klerk Greenhouse Gas Accounting of War.



Photo Stop Burning Trees Coalition take the fight to the DESNZ

The cracks are starting to show at Drax

As climate chaos rages around the world, the Government has just made the reckless decision to extend subsidies for the UK's single biggest carbon emitter, Drax. Subsidies were due to expire in 2027, and contrary to advice from the Climate Change Committee (CCC), Labour chose to extend subsidies to 2031. This is a decision to continue funding the destruction of forests, pollution of communities, huge amounts of carbon emissions and the profits of Drax's shareholders at the expense of UK bill payers.

However, the Government hasn't given Drax exactly what it wanted. New subsidies only cover 27% of generation, about half of Drax's current level. When Michael Shanks announced the decision, he took the opportunity to lambast Drax over its many indiscretions. The announcement's tone was not a happy one, but frustration at the apparent need for Drax to continue supplying intermittent power whilst real renewables are scaled up.

That said, the reality of the draft terms isn't that bad for Drax. The Government made a big show around improving sustainability standards (*no real change, Drax already claims nearly 100% of its biomass is sustainable*), reducing supply chain emissions (*the new level is higher than*

Drax's current emissions, and four times the rate set for this type of subsidy in 2018) and claims from Government, then repeated in the press, that Drax's subsidies had been 'halved' (*the new strike price is set so high Drax could receive similar amounts to currently*). A notable absence was any reference to communities suffering devastating health impacts from Drax's wood pellet production pollution abroad.

In many ways, Drax has been rewarded for bad behaviour.

However, the announcement made clear the Government recognises how strong public and political opposition is to Drax; committing to a full review of the role of Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage in future generation mix. The CCC's recent Seventh Carbon Budget saw BECCS reduced nearly fivefold, with an (albeit far too slow) end to all imported biomass. It's far from the deal Drax wanted, who've now announced they'll be cutting BECCS investment.

With Drax looking at roughly half as much generation, and rumoured refusal to confirm job security past 2027, job losses look likely. Combined with the recent mass redundancies at C-Capture, Drax's carbon capture partner, and the future of BECCS looking increasingly uncertain - it's more urgent than ever to be developing a proactive worker-led transition.

There is a lot of work still to be done in building relationships with workers and unions, to recognise that the future of Drax is not in continued tree burning, or promises of carbon capture: but in the real green jobs we need to decarbonise. We're grateful for the roles our friends in the unions are playing in pushing this forward, and while progress sometimes feels slow, movement is happening. The cracks are beginning to show and the end of Drax is in sight: so it's up to us, across climate and worker justice campaigns, to make sure there is a real transition to a greener future.

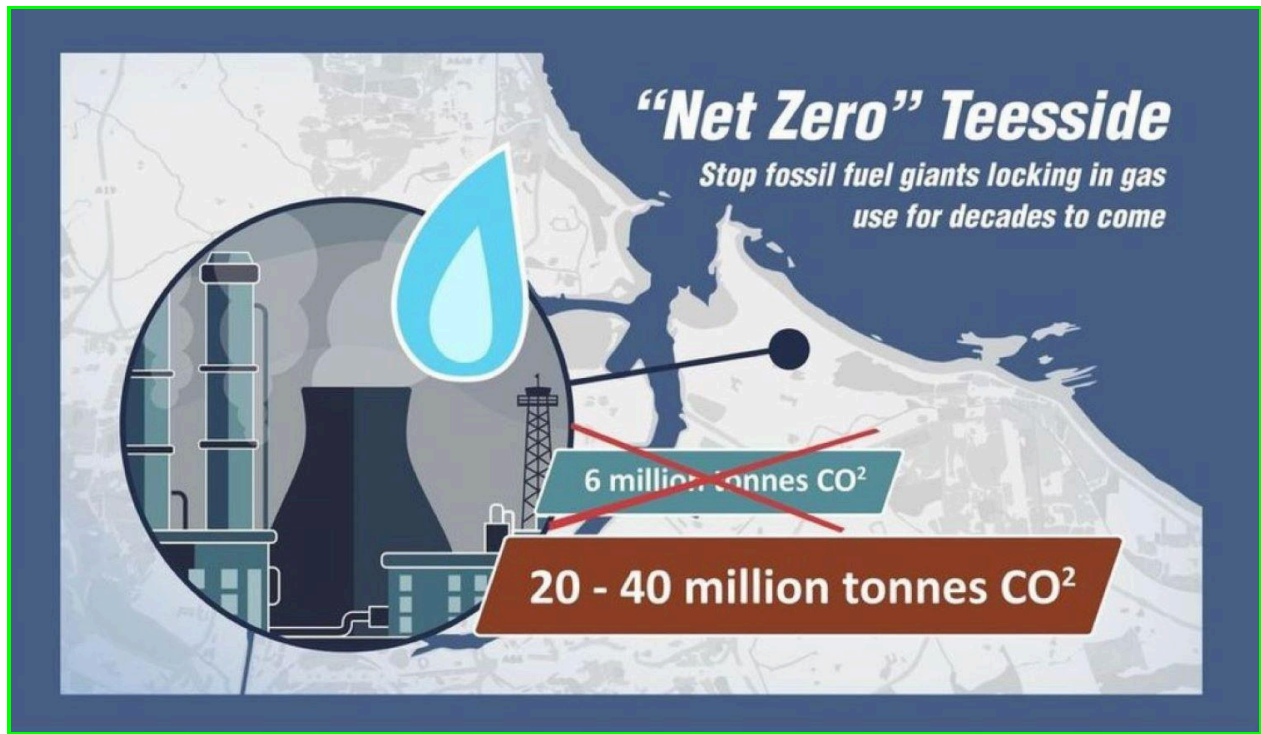
Merry Dickinson, Stop Burning Trees Coalition



Drax - Photo: Stop Burning Trees Coalition

Stranded Assets - it's a gas, gas, gas.

European gas consumption has fallen by 20% since 2021, as a result of renewables deployment and demand reduction policies. That led to imports of Liquefied Natural Gas falling by 19% last year. For the UK, the drop was a whopping 47%. The average utilisation rate of the EU's LNG import terminals fell from 58% in 2023 to 42% in 2024. Unless stopped, the current push for LNG infrastructure development, combined with continuing drops in demand, is projected to exceed demand three times over by 2030.



On 4th March Andrew Boswell was in the Court of Appeal bringing a test case on whether the planning decision on Net Zero Teesside Power is lawful.

Net Zero Teesside?

BP and Equinor initially failed to declare any upstream emissions for this Carbon Capture plant although there is no technology to capture these emissions and they form the largest part of the plant's carbon footprint. Methane accelerates climate breakdown more rapidly than CO₂ and it was left to me as a member of the public to correct the estimates of the climate impacts.

The heart of the case is that the previous energy minister agreed with my analysis, but then perversely deemed that these severe climate impacts were consistent with UK Net Zero policy.

The influential Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of MPs recently warned that CCS is a high-risk investment, with massive costs for taxpayers and consumers.

This case further undermines the credibility of the UK's CCS strategy that already has £59.7bn allocated to it in subsidies. It is an unproven technology which risks keeping energy bills high and tied to the volatile gas market, whilst offering no guarantee of success or meaningful progress toward Net Zero.

Andrew Boswell

Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts slams CCUS

Published on 7 February, the [latest report of the cross party Committee on Public Accounts](#) expresses deep scepticism about the viability of the government's planned investment in CCUS, stating that

- Although a quarter of the £22 billion over 25 years to support the first projects will come from the Exchequer, three quarters will come from levies on consumers.
- The Department has stated that its ambition to capture and store 20 to 30 million tonnes per year of CO₂ by 2030 is no longer achievable, but it has not yet set any revised targets.
- The Department is reliant on the technology working to contribute to achieving net zero but cannot be sure how these first-of-a-kind projects will perform.
- The Department will need to find alternative ways of reducing emissions if there are further delays in agreeing support for more projects, or if the technology's performance is not as good as it expects.
- It needs to avoid over reliance on the programme at the expense of other routes to net zero, such as renewable energy.
- There is a high risk that CCUS will not deliver to the timescales or the level of carbon reductions needed and thus jeopardise the government's ability to meet carbon reduction targets.

A Just Transition for the UK Steel Industry

The UK government's recently announced £2.5 billion Steel Strategy comes at a critical juncture, as President Trump's plan to reinstate tariffs on steel and aluminium imports threaten to further destabilise a sector that is already clouded in uncertainty. Trump's proclamations are likely to trigger countermeasures from the EU. It has already prompted the UK government to swiftly respond with some sensible steps to future-proof the UK steel industry.

While the plan aims to bolster the industry by addressing high electricity costs, simplifying public procurement, and promoting scrap metal recycling, it is essential to assess the impacts on workers and a Just Transition.

Achieving a Just Transition would mean the shift to a sustainable, low-carbon economy is fair and inclusive. No one should be left behind. This principle is particularly relevant for the steel industry, which has long been a cornerstone of the UK's industrial heartlands. The government's plan must prioritise the needs of workers, communities, and the environment to achieve a truly equitable transformation.

The steel industry has faced significant job losses and closures in recent years, including the recent mass redundancies at Port Talbot Steelworks. Any government investment must safeguard the industry's future – including that of the workforce. It should also offer robust support for workers and communities impacted by these changes.

Every effort needs to be made to future-proof existing jobs. Infrastructural upgrades will be essential to protect jobs and build a competitive steel industry. Where jobs are lost, other industries and workplaces with equivalently good jobs need to be established. It is essential to plan in a timely way to have a workforce pathway from A to B. And workers need social safety nets and retraining programs. These will help them move to new, sustainable jobs without economic hardship.

Failure to do so will not only have a devastating impact on communities like Port Talbot, but it also provides an opportunity for the far right to pit climate

versus jobs for their divisive agenda. The UK's aim to be a clean energy superpower gives the steel industry a chance to lead in modern green steel production. By investing into new zero-carbon steel facilities, boosting our public procurement of our steel, leveraging the country's increasingly decarbonised electricity supply and promoting the domestic re-processing of scrap steel (instead of exporting it and then re-importing the final product), the industry can grow and succeed. This shift to green steel needs policies that encourage innovation and investment in sustainable technologies.

The UK government's plan for the steel industry is a step in the right direction, as is the formation of the new steel council.

Involving trade unions and industry experts is key for a fair transition to a sustainable, low-carbon future for our steel industry. This approach can protect jobs and communities, and it will also help the UK lead in the global green economy.

Trump's tariffs on steel and aluminium imports highlight the need for fair and equitable trade practices. Whilst the government should be afforded time and space to try and negotiate an exemption, contingency plans must be drawn up. Aligning CBAM's implementation with the EU and collaborating with global partners to tackle unfair trade practices and excess capacity would be a positive step. By advocating for fair trade, the UK can protect its domestic steel industry while promoting global sustainability standards.

Ste Smith: TUC Worker Led Transition Team

Higher Environmental Risks demand stronger roles for Environmental Reps: useful motion for UCU Congress

The NW Regional meeting noted that the environmental and ecological crisis remains a global threat that all educationists need to address. The attack on “Green “ issues by Right wing press and Reform has begun to undermine the credibility of this essential UCU policy.

Congress resolves to:

1. Strengthen the role of UCU in negotiations to establish and maintain comprehensive Climate Action Plans for each AE, FE and HE education setting
2. Encourage all branches to establish the role of Green Reps as “Branch Environmental Officers” serving as a core officer role
3. Campaign with local branches for member Learning Agreements and Facility time for Environmental Officers
4. Request the TUC to enable the appointment of further Regional Green Bargaining Officers to support the development of regional and sub-regional networks of Environmental Officers.

From NW Region



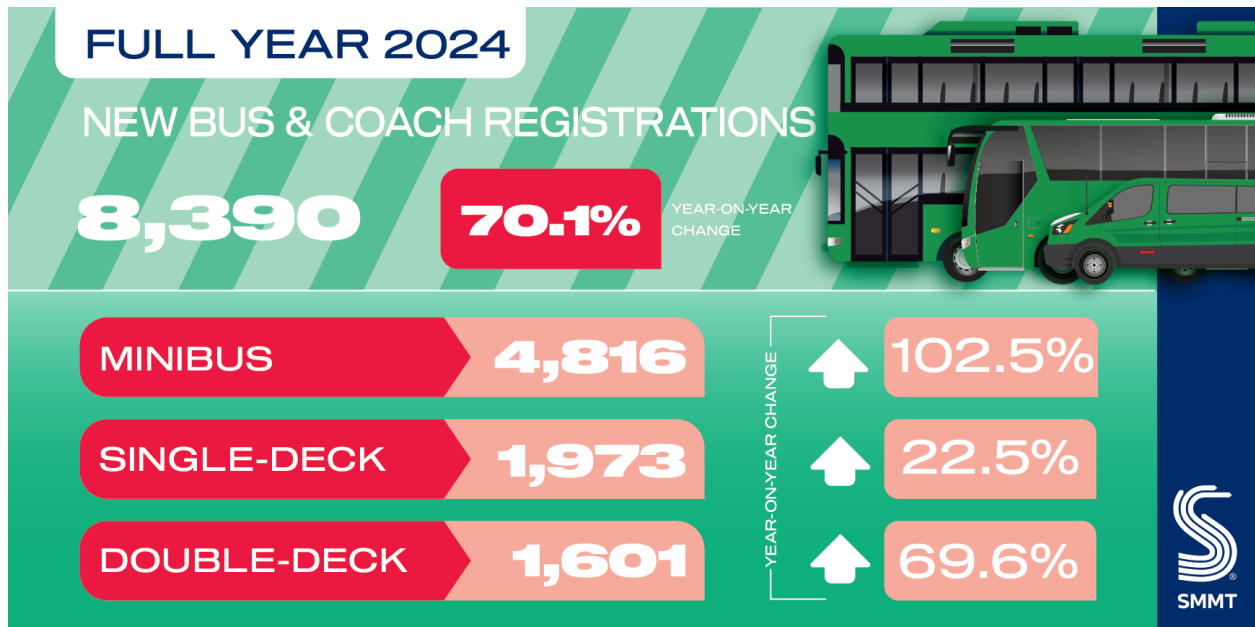
[Back up local Merthyr Tydfil residents](#) to demand the Council rejects notorious mining company [Merthyr \(South Wales\) Ltd's](#) recent [application](#) to brutally cut the promised quality of restoration at the Ffos-y-fran opencast coal mine. Public consultation is open until 14th April.

This is a brazen and scandalous money grab in the tens of £millions by the mining company. What's worse, is that the Council seem intent to rubber-stamp through this corporate betrayal of the 60,000 inhabitants of Merthyr Tydfil.

Find out why and join residents in the public consultation to [demand the Council only accepts quality restoration works](#) promised through 16 long years of opencast coal mining, noise, and dust pollution.

[OBJECT HERE](#)

Can't sign in to submit an objection? Fill out our [web form alternative](#).



Booming Buses

- Deliveries of new buses, coaches and minibuses reached a 16-year high with 8,390 joining UK roads.

- Demand rises across all segments, with minibuses and double-deckers boasting strongest growth.
- The UK is still Europe's biggest zero emission bus market, with deliveries up by more than a third in 2024 and 1,570 electric or hydrogen units entering service across all three bus types. This is a 35.5% increase in demand, partly driven by increased model availability, with operators now able to choose from 17 options; particularly in the new single and double decker bus market, where ZEVs comprised 43.9% of registrations. [From SMMT](#)
- **A full bus can take 55 cars off the road**, helping reduce both carbon emissions and traffic.
- For journeys under a mile (which make up 20% of car trips), **walking or cycling could cut emissions by 99%** compared to driving.
- **Electric cars are incredibly efficient.** They convert over 80% of power from the grid to the wheels, while petrol and diesel vehicles usually manage under 30%.

Portsmouth's Big Bus Push

The [Campaign for Better Transport](#) has published a blog by Portsmouth's Cabinet Member for Transport noting the rapid progress Portsmouth's bus network has made the past year, with **over 1 million bus journeys being taken each month** – a 22.3 per cent increase in a year, making it one of the top four cities in England for bus travel recovery, and the fastest improver in the UK.

The Portsmouth Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) was launched in January 2022 with £48.3 million in funding from the Department for Transport aiming to make travel easier, faster, and greener.

- **Making bus travel more accessible** The Pompey ticket range offers discounted fares for students and young people and special tickets for group travel and those on late night journeys, with the Young Person particularly popular. The 90-minute Hoppa ticket allows

passengers to hop on and off as they need, making the bus a more flexible option. Fare free schemes encourage people to give the bus a try. Over 191,000 extra journeys were made during September weekends in 2023 and 2024 alone; an increase in bus patronage of more than 46 per cent.

- **Evening and weekend travel made easier** Two 24/7 bus routes have been introduced along with increased services during evenings and weekends to make sure that everyone, no matter their schedule, can rely on public transport.
- **Focus on inclusivity and accessibility** The Easy Travel Access Fund provides support to community groups, businesses and charities, to enhance access.
- **Upgrading infrastructure for a better experience** Improvements to bus stops and bus lanes around the city, include the installation of new information screens at stops in the new year.
- **Looking ahead** The aim is to exceed pre-pandemic levels of bus travel and make public transport more convenient and affordable for everyone in Portsmouth.
- **A partnership for excellence** Portsmouth has managed to pull First Bus South and Stagecoach South into a partnership in this plan. Straight out public ownership would be better. This will need continued support and investment. [More information available here.](#)

Bums on Fire - rolling down the road?

[Auto Express](#) reports that German car giant BMW has “paused” a £600m investment in its Mini plant in Oxford, which had been set to convert to electric-only production. BMW’s claim that the delay is due to “*slower than expected take-up of EVs*” is belied by its own [figures](#) showing that sales of electric Minis grew by 24% last year. Electric vehicle sales grew by a quarter worldwide last year and by a fifth in the UK. Even in Germany, where EV sales fell, BMW EV sales grew last year. The [Times](#) noted “*Government sources said BMW’s decision to halt its investment in the UK was not to do with the EV mandate. Rather they claimed that it is due to the*

carmaker being hit hard by EU import tariffs on the vehicles it makes in China.”

European EV sales grew by 37% last year, which isn't stopping carmakers pushing for laxer carbon emission standards.

Expanding UK airports won't deliver economic growth

After Rachel Reeves support for a third runway at Heathrow, but before Heidi Alexander approved another at Gatwick, reports from the New Economics Foundation

- [Found that](#) airport expansion would cancel out carbon savings of the clean power plan.
- [Showed that](#) airport expansion will not deliver the growth the government wants.
- And how the [Chancellor's airport expansion plans](#) don't add up.

“I am not some sort of flight-shaming ecowarrior. I love flying. I always have.” Heidi Alexander, spectacularly missing the point. Too close to the Sun perhaps?

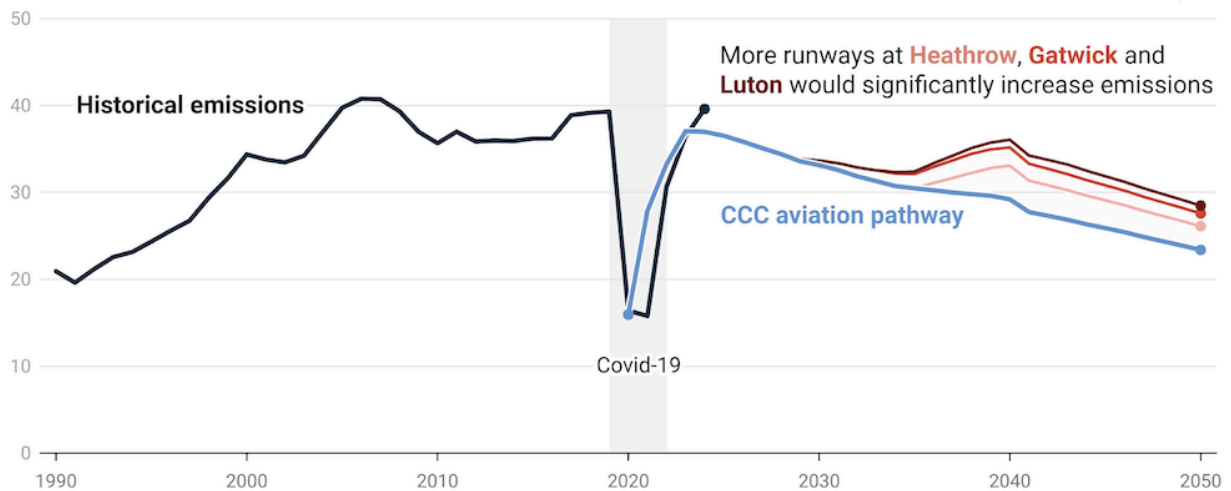
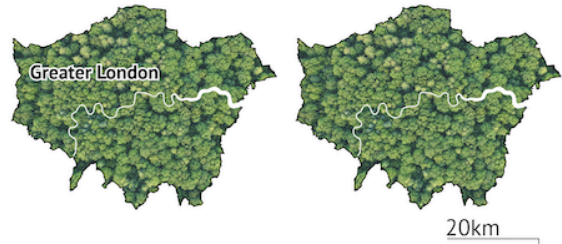
Nevertheless, although “minded to approve” the Gatwick expansion, the decision has been held back to October. The [Financial Times](#) says that the Planning Inspectorate's report on the new runway concluded that Gatwick's expansion would “*cause harm in various areas*”, pointing out that its greenhouse gas emissions “*would have a material effect on achieving carbon targets*”.

Emperor's New clothes

Conservative MP Kit Malthouse says airport capacity needs to expand, “*but another runway [at Heathrow] is a short-sighted solution*”. Instead, he reheats the push he led as London Deputy Mayor in 2017 for a new airport on the Thames Estuary. Malthouse needn't worry. As and when sea levels rise back to the same level they were the last time there was the current level of CO2 in the atmosphere [14 million years ago](#), the Thames Estuary will start at Staines, and Heathrow will be on it.

UK would need forest 'twice size of London' to offset new airport expansion

Annual UK aviation emissions, MtCO₂e



Source: DESNZ, CCC, AEF, Airport planning documents

CarbonBrief
CLEAR ON CLIMATE

It ain't the same the 'ole world over

- **Denmark** integrated district heating systems into its climate strategy, to cut carbon emissions by 70% across all sectors by 2030, eliminate the direct use of fossil gas for space heating in households by 2030, and remove gas from all households by 2035. Today, 44% of Denmark's buildings have a district heating connection, including two-thirds of homes as of 2023. The country has also largely made the switch away from oil, coal, and gas in district systems; in 2023, only 13% of district heat was generated using fossil fuels.
- **Americans** bought 37% more air-source heat pumps than gas boilers during the first eleven months of 2024, an increase of 16% over 2023; partly because heat pumps can be as much as four times as efficient as fossil-fuel systems and, as both consumers and contractors grow more familiar with the technology, many states are encouraging wider heat pump adoption. California, Colorado, Maine, Maryland,

Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Rhode Island are leaders, pledging last year to boost heat pumps to at least 65% of residential heating and cooling equipment sales by 2030. California last year used 25 percent less natural gas than it did the year before to generate electricity, reaching a tipping point, with enough batteries and enough solar panels that day after day they're supplying more than 100 percent of their electricity renewably. And Texas is now putting up clean energy faster than California.

- While Western oil companies retrench, India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp is aiming to boost its investments in renewable projects wind and solar 100 times over by the end of the 2020s. [From Bloomberg](#)
- **China.** The [People's Daily reports](#) that a trend of "eco-friendly" and "green" consumption is "sweeping across China's young people". The government is encouraging this, issuing 300 billion yuan's worth (\$41 billion) of Ultra-long special treasury bonds to support consumer goods trade-in programs.
- **Uruguay** On November 24, 2024, Yamandú Orsi, leader of the progressive Broad Front coalition, secured the presidency in a historic runoff, winning 50% of the vote. Environmental sustainability is a key priority for Orsi. Uruguay is already a leader in renewable energy with more than 98% of its electrical grid powered by renewable energy. Orsi has expressed interest in expanding investments in green technologies, and exploring international collaborations to develop green hydrogen production facilities. His foreign policy will focus on strengthening regional cooperation within frameworks like Mercosur, while expressing caution towards free trade agreements.
- **Spain** The Spanish government will grant one-year residency and work permits to potentially 25,000 foreigners affected by the [catastrophic flash floods](#) that hit the eastern part of the country last October. The extraordinary measure, approved by the Spanish cabinet on Tuesday, is aimed at facilitating paperwork for those living

irregularly in the dozens of towns affected by the floods, mainly in the region of Valencia.

- **Pakistan** over the last three years imported enough cheap Chinese solar panels to build out the equivalent of half their national electric grid. Similar things are happening in parts of southern Africa.

New Rules

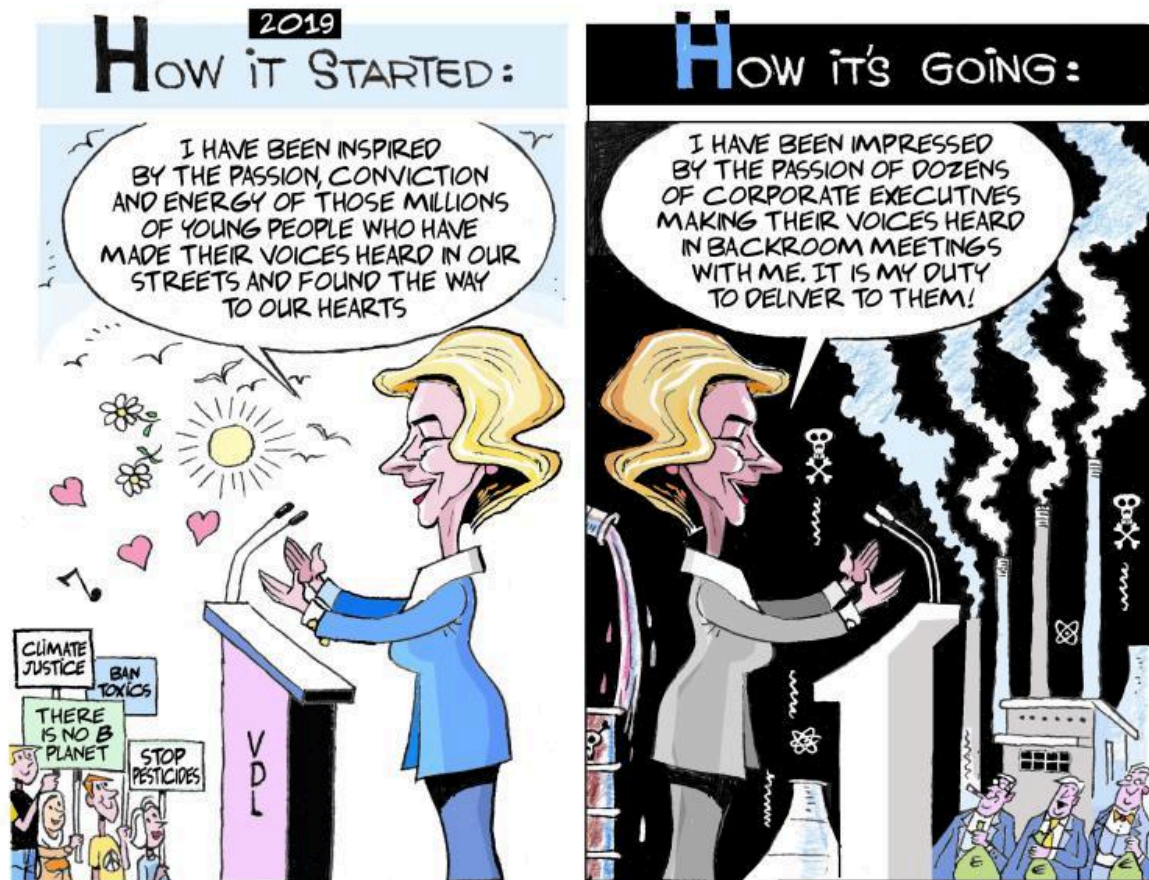
USA. More than 1,100 staff who joined the Environment Protection Agency in the past year, and who are still on probation, were sent emails warning they could be [fired at any time](#). Many were hired to work on programs helping communities replace lead pipes, remediating toxic sites and funding clean energy projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions”.

The [Washington Post](#) reports that the US Federal Highway Administration has ordered states to halt a \$5bn programme to build fast EV chargers on highways nationwide. [Politico](#) reports that the move “*raises legal questions as two federal judges have already ordered the Trump administration to lift freezes imposed on federal funding*”. [Reuters](#) reports that Trump “*has placed holds on tens of billions of dollars in congressionally-approved spending for projects across the US that range from Iowa soybean farmers adopting greener practices to a Virginia railway expansion*”.

The EPA is [demoting career employees](#) who oversee scientific research and enforce pollution laws, to replace them with political appointees who previously worked as lawyers or lobbyists for the oil and chemical industries. According to [ProPublica](#), more than 300 career employees have left the EPA since election night. “*We feel terrorised,*” one employee still at the agency told reporters.

The Senate has voted to overturn a recent Biden-era EPA rule that required all oil companies to pay a fine for emitting methane, according to the [Washington Post](#).

The **EU** is proposing looser state aid rules to subsidise the private sector in “clean tech” investment and lever in finance from “risk averse pension funds”. But [this has been critiqued](#), as some of the most polluting industries will receive billions in state aid and financing from EU funds, laws will be amended to suit their agenda, and deregulation will go as far as weakening recently adopted laws.



Cartoon by Khalil Bendib

UK: North Sea. Paint it black? [Defra has a scheme](#) to paint offshore wind turbines black after research has shown that doing so can reduce sea bird collisions by 70%.

The Government has confirmed a one-year extension to the Workplace Charging Scheme, which provides grant funding for businesses and other organisations installing electric vehicle (EV) chargers.

Developing new ways to help the NHS cut its carbon footprint will be the focus of a new UK-wide hub led by the [University of Exeter](#) and funded by £6.5 million in government awards.

The new funding is from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR); investing £42 million on seven hubs, each facing a different net zero challenge.

The health and social care pathways hub brings together a range of university and healthcare partners, to help the NHS become environmentally sustainable, and meet its legal obligation to become net zero by 2045. Emissions directly under NHS control are on course for an 80% reduction on 1990 levels by 2030, but emissions have actually increased from travel, waste and from companies who make drugs, devices and supplies used by hospitals and care facilities.

China's National Energy Administration (NEA) has *“outlined the main goals of energy work”* this year which call for the *“new energy generation capacity to surpass 200 gigawatts (GW)”* and the share of *“non-fossil sources”* in total power generation be increased to 60%, says industry media outlet China Energy News. China's coal-based blast furnace capacity *“must fall by at least 200m tonnes per annum”* by this year from 2020 levels – about 15% of its steelmaking capacity – to meet its “green energy goal”, [SCMP](#) reports, citing a report by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air.

Vietnam is revising its energy plans to focus more on large solar farms and less on reliance on coal and natural gas. The fast-growing economy now aims to get 16% of its energy from the sun — more than triple its [earlier target](#) of just 5%.

Events:

Assessing Labour's plans for a sustainable future with Ian Williams.

Open online meeting 24th March 2025, 7.30

- Will the Government's plans and policies meet the UK's climate goals?
- Will Labour create a decarbonised and sustainable economy?
- Does a 'just transition' figure in Labour's thinking?
- Is the environmental emergency being addressed seriously enough?

Speaker: Ian Williams, Professor of Applied Environmental Science at the University of Southampton.

Followed by questions and discussion. [Join meeting here.](#)

The logo for Islington Environmental Forum (Is.E.F) features the letters 'Is.E.F' in a bold, green, serif font. The letters are slightly irregular and have a textured appearance, giving it a hand-drawn or stamped look.

Islington Environmental Forum

Fourth Frome International Climate Film Festival

Sunday 18th May at the **Cheese and Grain** from **9-3pm** with a discussion with a panel of environmentalists.

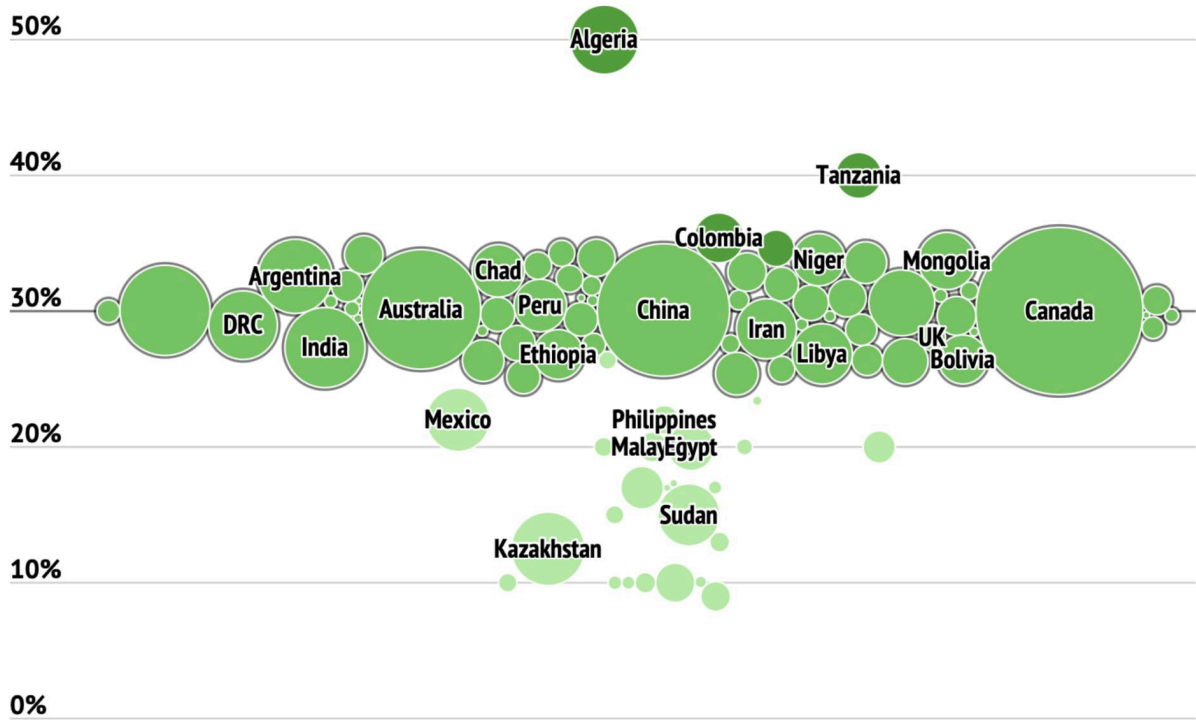
The **awards ceremony**, including showings of the winning films, will be on **Sunday 25 May 2025 at Rook Lane Chapel**. Positive and inspiring stories from people all over the world facing effects of climate change where they live. We especially hope young people will see them, understand the issues but also the resourceful and innovative ways people are fighting back.

Many of the films are short, some animation, some shot on phones, others professional - entries from over 80 countries this year. And don't just consume the films - make your own! Spread the message!

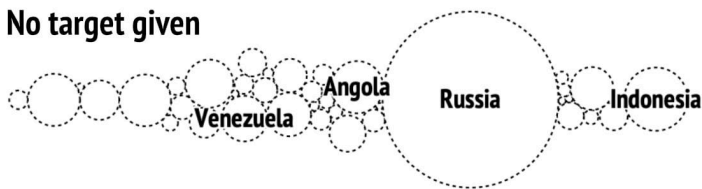
climatefilmfestival.co.uk

More than half of nations do not plan to protect 30% of land for nature

The percentage of land targeted for protection for nature by different countries. Circles proportional to country land area.



No target given



Source: National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and national targets submissions to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

CarbonBrief
CLEAR ON CLIMATE

Trump Words: “Unfair”: anything, or anyone, that stands in the way of rich, powerful people, or countries getting whatever they want whenever they want it.

Green Bites

242 Million Children [missed school last year](#) because of the impact of the climate emergency.

50% of the 1600 gigawatts of solar estimated to be required to decarbonize the U.S. grid by 2050, 861 GW could come from floating photovoltaic (FPV) systems hosted by federal reservoirs, according to the “*most conservative scenario*” in a [study](#) just published in the journal Solar Energy. *Is anyone thinking of doing that here?*

2-11% Projected global drop in the cost of clean energy technologies, such as wind, solar and battery storage, in 2025, according to a new study by Bloomberg NEF. [BusinessGreen](#) says the report covers 29 technologies in more than 50 countries. According to the report, the global benchmark cost for battery storage projects fell by a third in 2024 to \$104 per megawatt hour (MWh).

59% of British owners of EVs, and those intending to buy one, said Musk’s influence would deter them from buying a Tesla. [Tesla's UK sales fell](#) nearly 12% in January, even as monthly EV registrations in Europe's biggest battery-electric market surged to new highs. That follows January sales drops of 63% for Tesla in France, 59% in Germany, 44% and 38% in Sweden and Norway, and a 42% fall in the Netherlands. In California, the largest U.S. car market with more than 1.7 million vehicle registrations in 2024, Tesla sales fell by 12%.

57% The annual increase in second-hand EV sales in the UK from 2023 to 2024, with 188,382 cars changing hands in 2024, according to [BusinessGreen](#).

66% of UK farmers felt they had had to make changes due to climate change, according to the [Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' \(Defra\) Farmer Opinion Tracker survey](#) conducted in October 2024.

£27 million per GW [bonus to be paid by the government](#) to offshore wind developers if they source from local suppliers that create jobs in '*areas that need it most*'.

5-1 Ratio of Americans who think global warming is happening compared to those who think it isn't (73% - 14%). 60% realise that it is human caused, compared to 28% who don't, 64% are worried about it, but 62% never or rarely talk about it. From a [survey by Yale University](#) last autumn.

92% of the funding for the Reform Party between the 2019 and 2024 elections came from Fossil Fuel Interests, Climate Deniers, and Polluters. Possibly why Nigel Farage claims not to know anything about climate science but still says it's nothing to worry about. [From Desmog](#).

0 The number of new jobs that would be created if the Jackdaw gas field were to go ahead. From [FOE Scotland](#)

£1 billion was wiped off BPs share price when they announced that their tiny moves towards investment in renewables had gone “*too far, too fast*”. BP is now a stranded asset. As the [Times](#) put it “*As Murray Auchincloss tries to reset the oil major’s strategy, some are asking if it is lost in a strategic fog.*”

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