



Business Council for Sustainable Development United Kingdom



BCSD-UK UPDATE - JULY 2009

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News From Energetic Meeting of the BCSD-UK Energy Group



Our Energy Group under the Chairmanship of Mark Saunders from E.ON supported by Jim Rushworth from Lafarge is highly active. It has its Guide to Decentralised Energy on the BCSD-UK website, and recently staged a workshop of nearly 50 delegates hosted by Lafarge Cement UK at its HQ in Birmingham. Some 20 ideas of future activity for the Group emerged from that meeting and are currently being considered.

Delegates came from AECOM; Advantage West Midlands (3); Amey; Arcadis; Birmingham City Council; Birmingham City University; British Waterways; BWB; Catalyst Corporate Finance LLP; Change Forum Ltd; Climate Change

Solutions Ltd; DLA Piper; EBC Ltd; Eccleshall Biomass Ltd; E.ON (3); Faithful + Gould; GreenWise Business News; Lafarge Cement; Loughborough University; Marches Energy Agency; Martineau; National Grid; NG Bailey; Npower Energy Services; Ondeo Industrial Solutions; Orion Management Ltd; PA Consulting (2); Paragon Simulation; Pelagos Partnerships; PriceWaterhouseCoopers; Product Sourcing Services; Rexam Plc; Ricardo UK; Rolls Royce; Scottish & Newcastle UK Ltd; Shell; University of Bristol; Warwickshire County Council.

New thinking tested at July General Meeting

The July GM being hosted by Lloyds Banking Group in London is the third GM of 09. Two speakers have inter-related subjects. Anne Weir is to explore how members and guests have reacted to the “Challenging Convention” report that emerged from our February brain storm event at BERR’s FutureFocus facility in London. Tim Jackson, renowned speaker and Economics Commissioner, Sustainable Development Commission; Professor of Sustainable Development, University of Surrey; Director of RESOLVE (Research group on Lifestyles, Values and Environment); and Author of the SDC report “Prosperity Without Growth?” is the other speaker.

BCSD-UK and Carbon Action Yorkshire Stage Residential Workshop in Yorkshire to explore New Business Modelling and Localised Manufacturing

The “Challenging Convention” report and a new BCSD-UK venture which will explore the concept of localised manufacturing feature in a major event but for a small group of delegates only. This is being sponsored by Carbon Action Yorkshire and held as a day and a half residential workshop on July 29th and 30th. The Facilitator will be Anne Weir and the speaker at dinner will be Dr Stewart Davies, Business Commissioner of the Sustainable Development Commission.

It is hoped to stage similar events in Scotland, the Midlands and London.

BCSD-UK’s Political Briefings

BCSD-UK has two major developments in this important area. On a quarterly basis, we are to meet and brief the team from DEFRA and BIS led by Lord Hunt, Deputy Leader of the House of Lords and Minister of State, Department for Energy and Climate Change. A first meeting has been held involving 12 BCSD-UK members and Lord Hunt together with senior officers from DECC, BIS and DEFRA. The second meeting is to be on July 21st.

We have also established an arrangement with Shadow Energy Minister, Charles Hendry, to brief him quarterly. This follows contact made when he spoke at our 10th Anniversary Summit in March. BCSD-UK Chairman Jeff Tetlow, John Hill from Converteam, Mark Saunders from E.ON and I met the Shadow Minister in Portcullis House three weeks ago. Actions arising are now being considered.

People – Space – Movement – a new BCSD-UK project

BCSD-UK is to be involved with an Environmental Business Communications developed event called People – Space – Movement to be held at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry in March 2010. Still being developed, the event has sponsorship so far from Advantage West Midlands, Coventry City Council, and Cenex, the UK’s first Centre of Excellence for low carbon and fuel cell technologies, based at Loughborough University. PSM asks “how do you design urban space for the low carbon world?” – “what do cars look like in that space?” – “what propels them?” – and “what sort of business models do we need to make it happen?”. The Midlands Environmental Business Company and the Niche Vehicle Network are amongst the support organisations. The latter brings in Aston Martin, Lotus, and Westfield, amongst others. More information via 0121 693 8336.

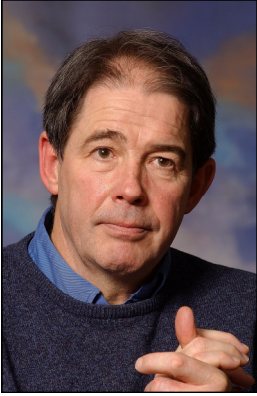
Resource Respect – Water

On Thursday August 6th WSP in Leeds will host a BCSD-UK morning workshop on the subject of water as a critical resource. We will be exploring the World Business Council’s report on water and considering the pertinence of this to UK businesses and to identify forward actions for BCSD-UK. Booked to attend already are representatives from Acclimatise; AECOM; Arup; Agfa-Gevaert Ltd; British Waterways; Caldervale Technology; Carbon Action Yorkshire; Connaught plc; Corus; Cranswick Country Foods; Diageo; JBA Consulting; Molson Coors Brewing; Ondeo Industrial Solutions; Premier Foods; Shell UK; WSP; Yorkshire Water.

BCSD-UK Young Business Leaders Group – progress report

From quite extensive work to date, an embryonic plan has been submitted to and agreed by the BCSD-UK Management Committee for the formation of a BCSD-UK Young Business Leaders Group and a programme of knowledge raising based on the experience of BCSD-UK members. A more detailed development is now being considered by project leader Hugh Williams of Ecotec/Ecorys and we hope to be able to test this with members in the not too distant future.

Jonathon Porritt steps down from SDC Chair



On a sweltering July 1st in the Royal Horticultural Halls, Westminster, a large audience including the BCSD-UK CEO and several members took part in a Sustainable Development Commission event called Breakthroughs for the twenty-first century. But whatever it was called and purported to be, in essence this was the swansong of the SDC's founder chairman, Jonathon Porritt.

Speakers included His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and the Rt Hon Ed Miliband, MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change. Rosie Boycott, Jonathan Dimbleby and Anna Ford chaired various plenary and breakout sessions in a long and very hot day.

The event also introduced Jonathon's successor, Will Day. He comes from a background in international sustainable development, having worked with aid organisations Care International, Save the Children and Oxfam; and in broadcasting with the BBC World Service.

He was instrumental in setting up Comic Relief, and has chaired the BBC's Children In Need as well as advising Pricewaterhouse Coopers on sustainability. He is also Special Advisor to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and a Senior Associate of the University of Cambridge Programme for Industry, where he is a faculty member of the Prince of Wales's Business and Environment Programme.

Jonathon's speech was mostly reflective but ended with a substantial salvo of missiles fired at The Treasury.

Carbon Trust expands interest-free loans to help more SMEs survive the recession and cut carbon

The Carbon Trust is to improve access for small and medium businesses to over £100m in interest-free and unsecured loans, it was announced today. The move is intended to help more businesses survive the recession by cutting both their energy costs and their carbon footprints.

Thousands of small businesses have already slashed their annual energy bills, some by as much as 75%, by installing new energy-saving equipment paid for by Government-funded Carbon Trust loans.

Now the Carbon Trust has extended eligibility for the recently-expanded loan fund. The minimum loan amount has been lowered to just £3,000, putting the loans within reach of micro-businesses; the upper limit has been doubled from £200,000 to £400,000 to meet the needs of small and medium businesses with high energy spends, such as manufacturing companies.

The Carbon Trust expects to deliver over £100m in loan funding to UK SMEs over the next two years, including almost £84m in England allocated by the Government as part of Budget 2009.

In most cases, businesses taking a Carbon Trust loan to update their equipment find the savings they make on energy bills exceed the cost of the loan repayments. This means they benefit from brand new equipment, increased efficiency and reduced running costs, all at no expense to themselves. They also help to drive the UK's move to a low carbon economy.

Businesses can find more information about interest free Carbon Trust loans by calling 0800 085 2005 or visiting <http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy/takingaction/about-loans.htm>

UN launches Seal The Deal Campaign



STARTER KIT
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The United Nations has launched a powerful, new campaign to encourage governments to seal the deal on a fair, balanced and effective climate agreement when they meet in Copenhagen this December. Titled Seal the Deal!, the campaign is mobilizing political leaders, business leaders and civil society on an ambitious, global scale to raise a strong call for urgent and united action on climate change.

UNEP is proud to have a lead role in the campaign and we wish to invite you to join us. It's therefore our pleasure to provide a "Starter Kit" to support your involvement in the Seal the Deal! climate change campaign.

The links below enable you to download a range of campaign resources, including the logo. Please find the Starter Kit list of contents attached.

Your ongoing participation in the journey to COP 15 in Copenhagen will ultimately underpin the success of this major outreach effort.

At this important, early stage, your involvement is sought in the following ways:

Campaign logo:

http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/SEAL_THE_DEAL_LOGOS.zip

For web:

http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/FOR_WEB.zip

Video messages of support:

http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/VIDEO_MESSAGES.zip

Design templates:

http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/DESIGN_TEMPLATES.zip

Plus (email signature and 'stamping station' instructions)

<http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/INSTRUCTIONS.zip>

Download entire Starter Kit

<http://www.unep.org/downloads/sealthedeal/Materials.zip>

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