

Dear Sir,

The governments lead on tackling global warming and reducing the UK's carbon dioxide emissions by 20% from its 1990 level by 2020, is in a serious mess, and are littered with empty promises and policies without real substance.

Environment Secretary Margaret Beckett is struggling to come up with new ideas that will bring UK emissions back under control and ensure that we meet our self-imposed targets. Without our own emissions under control, how can we expect to be able to increase the pressure on the USA to accept emission targets.

Transport Secretary Alistair Darling is proposing low-impact changes to distribution and sale of renewable fuel sources by 2010. How about the government immediately looked at removing any tax on 'green' vehicles to ensure that they are financially attractive in the first place.

The only two bills aimed at reducing global warming and being considered by parliament at present is put forward by two backbench labour MPs Alan Whitehead and Mark Lazarowicz. They want to ensure that future housing are build with renewable energy source and that any energy surplus can be sold back to national grid at a fair price. Why is such measures not being proposed by the Environment Secretary?

And to top it all off, the Prime Minister last week appeared to suggest that he is in favour of a technological solution to global warming rather than emission targets.

Yesterday Lord May, the president of the Royal Society, told peers that the government was in danger of loosing their claim to be world leaders on climate change. In my view Tony Blair and his government have lost that claim long ago.

Mr. F. Bermann
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