

Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

02 November 2012

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about reducing fuel bills through energy efficiency.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Dear Mr Lilley,

Re: Please help end the scandal of cold homes

Energy bills are causing immense financial hardship, with one in four households struggling to heat their homes. I have signed the Energy Bill Revolution petition calling for an end to the scandal of cold homes. I urge you please to show your support by adding your name to a Parliamentary Motion supporting the campaign, EDM 47.

Cold, badly insulated homes damage the health of our most vulnerable citizens, including older people, children and people with disabilities. This costs the NHS almost a billion pounds each year.

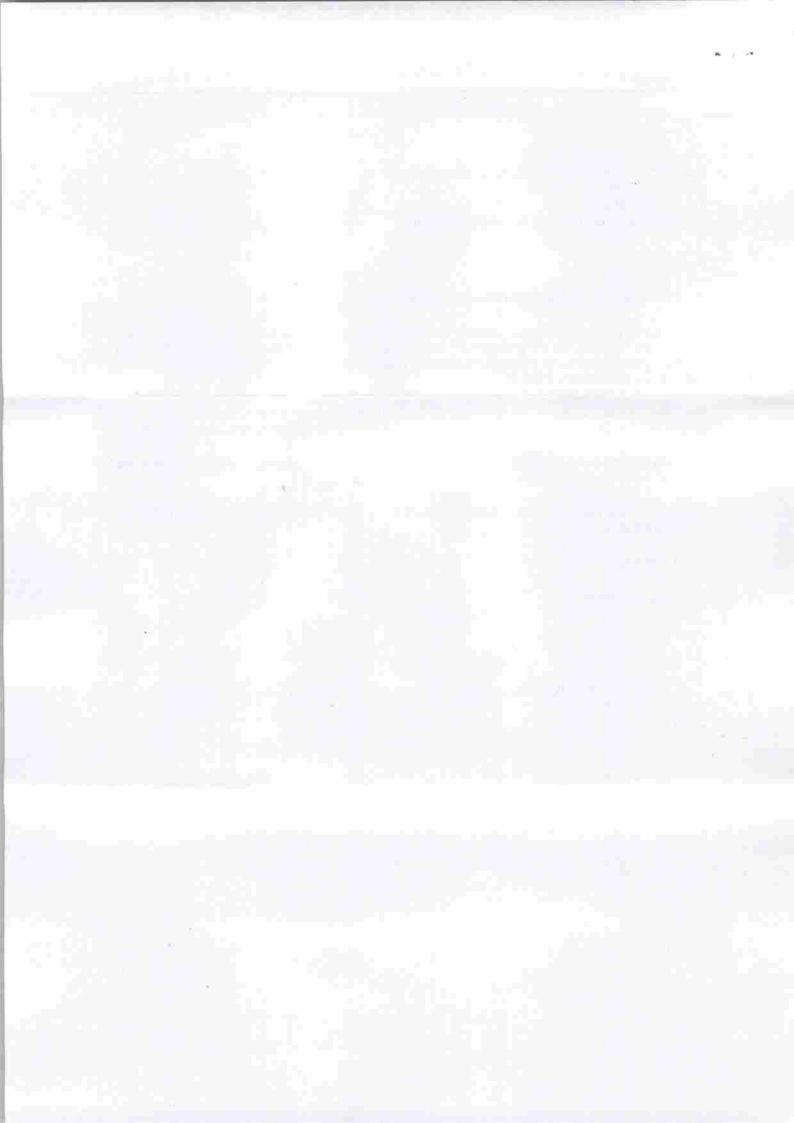
But there is a fair and permanent solution - one which will also generate many thousands of jobs. We can have warm homes, cut carbon emissions and reduce our fuel bills.

Please join me in asking the Government to use the money it will get from carbon taxes to make our homes super-energy efficient.

Yours sincerely,

UK Parljament Disclaimer:

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Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Ed Davey MP Secretary of State Department for Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

12 November 2012

Dear Ed

Mr constituent, at a recent constituency advice surgery.

came to see me

He would like to know why Thorium is not used in preference to nuclear energy in the generation of electricity since he believes that Thorium is a much safer option.

He would also be grateful if you could let him know your views on the decision of the German government to build a large number of coal-fired power stations and why, in that case, is Drax power station being subsidised to use wood instead of coal.

I would be grateful for your comments on the above.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HH

05 December 2012

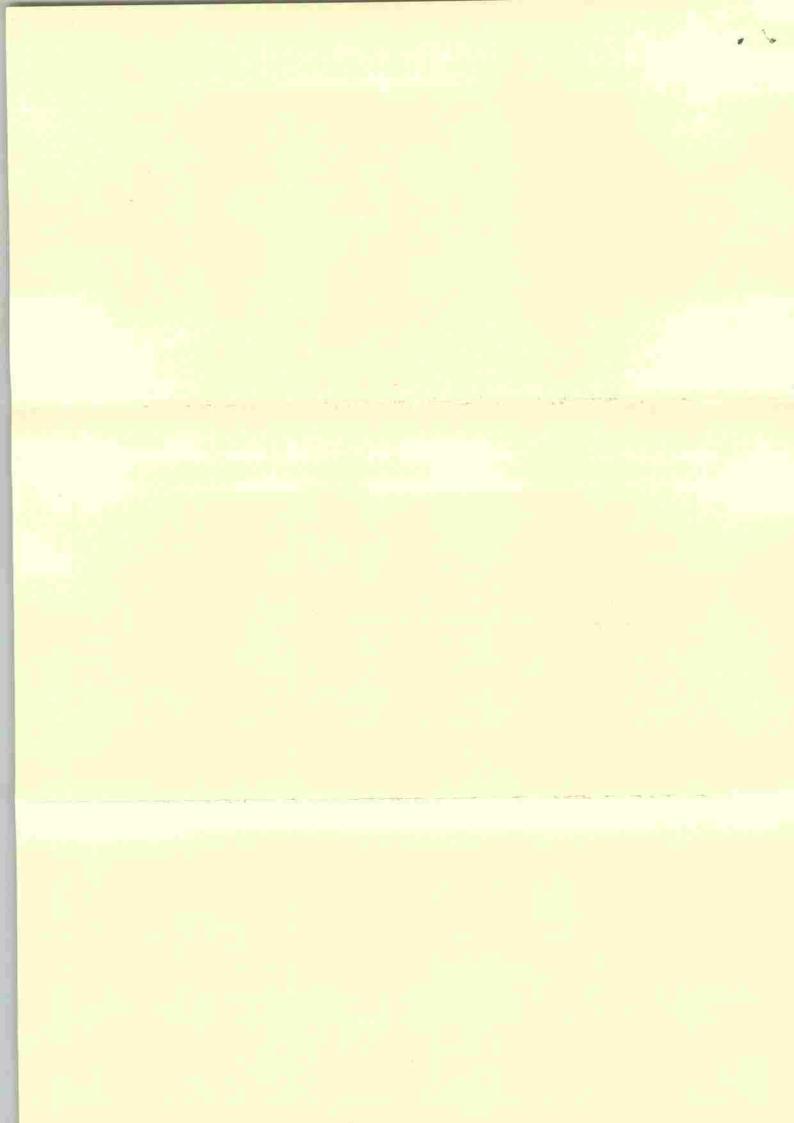
Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about renewable energy.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Peter





Dear Mr Lilley,

Like everyone I am sorry for people that have been affected by the flooding. I cannot imagine what they must be going through.

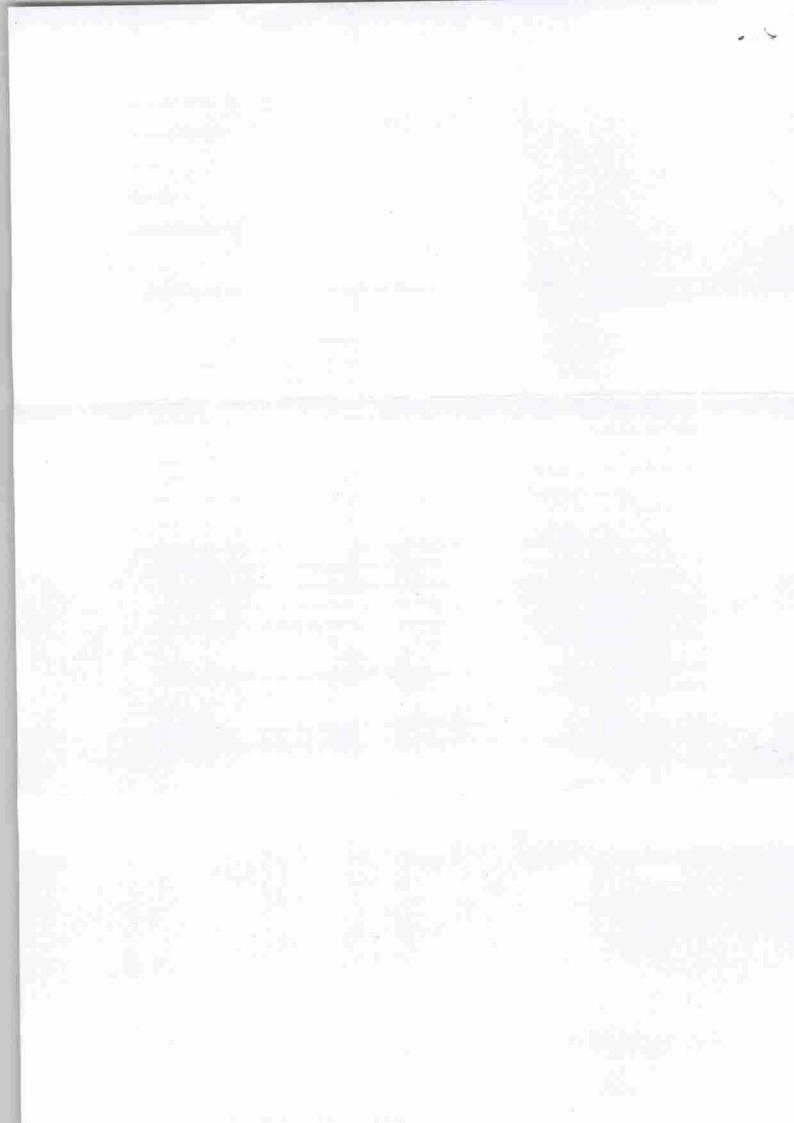
When the Water Board was in existence I remember as a young man that they made a point of dredging all the rivers so that they did not silt up, using the silt to put on the banks. Since privatisation this practice appears to have stopped. I would suggest that because of this rivers are becoming shallower and therefore unable to cope with larger flows of water. Thus creating flooding I am sure that it would not take long to compare the current depth of rivers with what they were 50 years ago. I do appreciate that Global Warming may have a part to play, but old ideas should not be disregarded as old fashioned. Farmers and Local Authorities also used to clear all the ditches to help with drainage, this has also stopped. WHY? I wrote to the Environment Minister in the last Labour government on the very subject and received a reply saying that dredging would ruin the river bed. Ridiculous.

On another matter(RENEWABLE ENERGY) we have hundreds if not thousands of unused Millstreams in this country. As you are aware we have one in Wheathampstead. Just think if all that power going to waste. Why can we not get Water Wheels put with dynamos to produce electricity 24/7. We all know that Windmills are not that efficient, they are expensive to produce and maintain, I believe that when the wind is too strong they cannot work and are idle with no wind. In fact I think that they are made abroad. Not very good for our economy.

Another thought how about making builders put solar panels on all new houses, NO PANELS NO PLANNING APPROVAL-SIMPLE

When Blair and Brown were in Office I wrote on the subject of Renewable Energy and the reply was IF WE WERE A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY IT WOULD WORTH DOING. As they made us one could we not start now?

The Conservatives say they are for the people so perhaps the Prime Minister might like to take the above on board. Instead of building HS2 and saving 20 minutes to Birmingham and all the upheaval spend it where it will do more good.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

18 December 2012

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about his support for clean power.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

AND THE STREET OF STREET

Dear The+Right+Honourable+Mr Peter Lilley MP

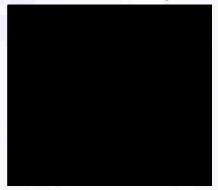
Like most people in the UK I want to see us switch to clean power by 2030. The experts agree that it's the cheapest way to meet our climate change goals.

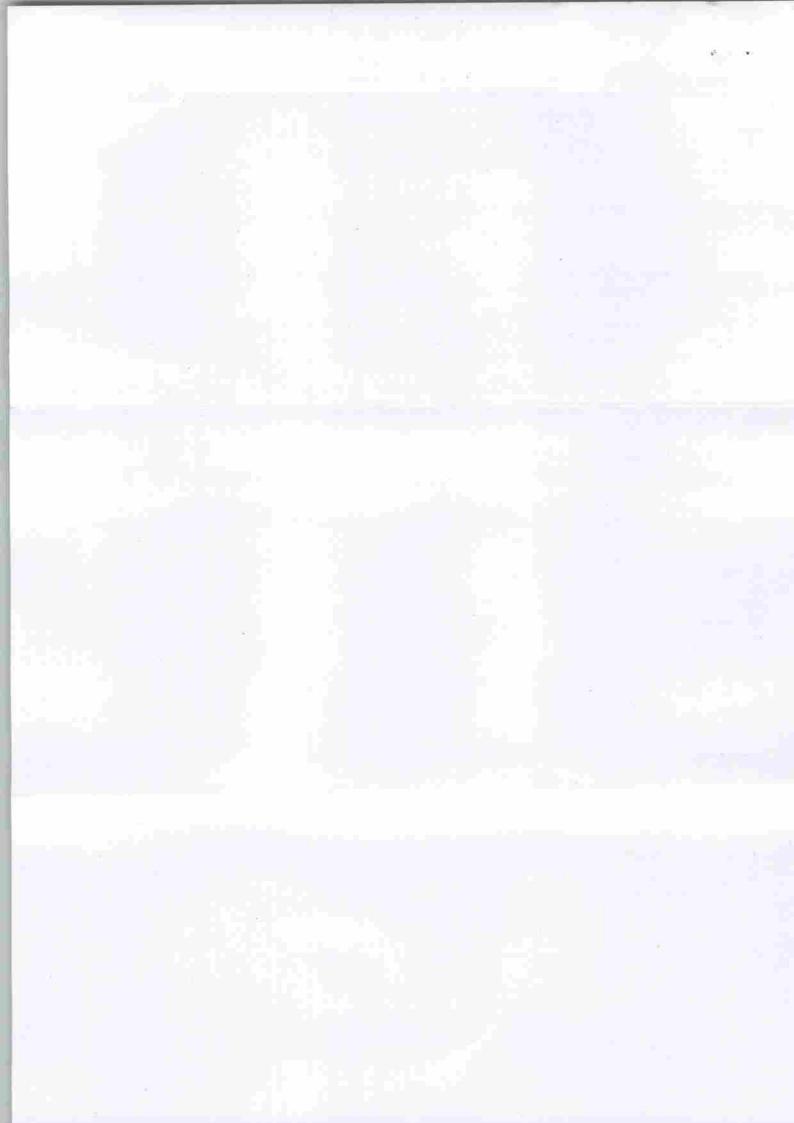
The best way to make this happen is by adding a clean energy target as a 'green jobs amendment' to the Energy Bill. This would deliver green power and produce jobs and growth by sending a clear message to clean energy investors that Britain is open for business.

Without such a target I'm worried that the policies in the Bill will unleash a new dash for gas that would bust our climate targets and leave bill-payers vulnerable to further hikes as gas prices continue to rise.

Please back a decarbonisation target in the Energy Bill.

You can contact me by email (preferably - to save resources) or at the following address:







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HH

21 December 2012

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a postcard I have received from the above constituent of mine about her support for Friends of the Earth's campaign, Clean British Energy.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

(\$igned in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)



JDEAR MR P. LIWEY MP.

I want you to give the country a "CBE": a Clean British Energy revolution. And I'm not alone, with 70% of people agreeing that we should switch the country to energy from wind, sun, water and waves.

Parliament is debating Electricity Market Reform this year, but the Government's plans look set to continue with expensive, imported gas; risky nuclear power and domination by just six companies, making huge profits while thousands live in dangerously cold homes.

It's time to open up the market to allow smaller energy companies to compete and businesses, councils, community groups and individuals to generate their own energy. Cutting energy waste and switching to Clean British Energy is our best hope for affordable fuel bills in future. It's what people want, it's happening in other countries and it can happen here too.

Please call on the Government to ensure its Electricity Market Reform plans deliver Clean British Energy by prioritising renewables.

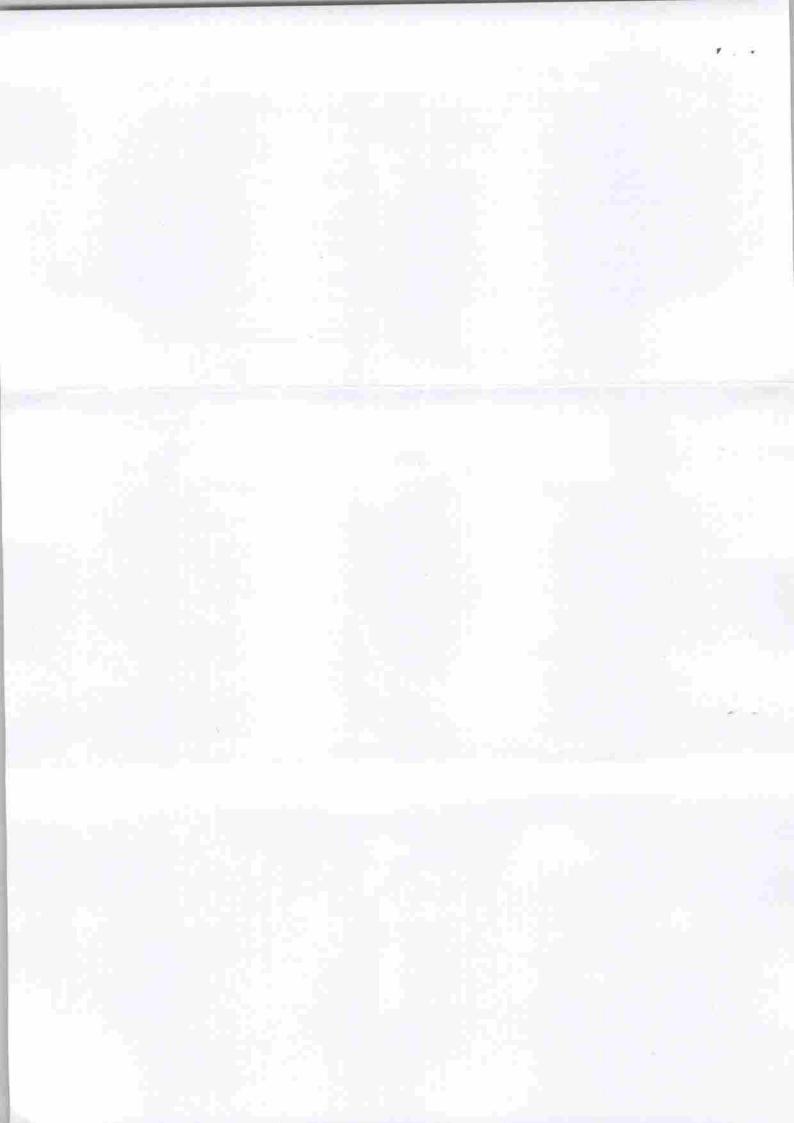
Yours sincerely,



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D Friends of the Earth, April 2012

PC1204001





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



John Hayes MP Minister of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

2 6 FEB 2013

21 February 2013

Dear John

Further to previous correspondence, I enclose a copy of an email I have received

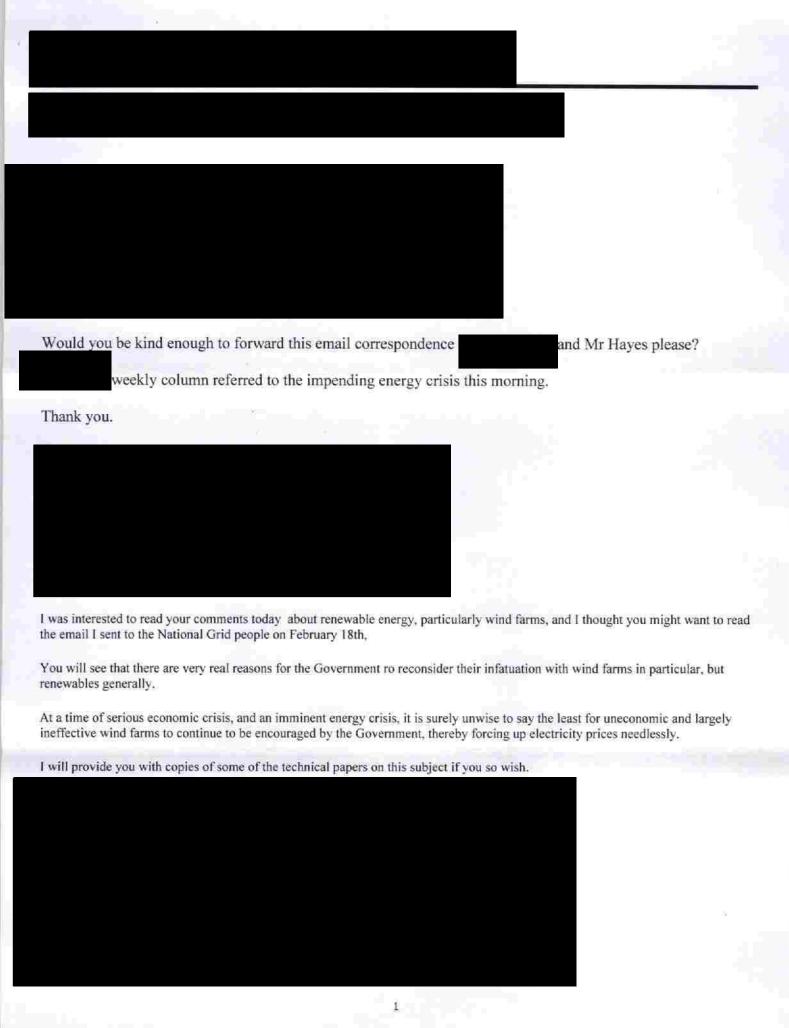
I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

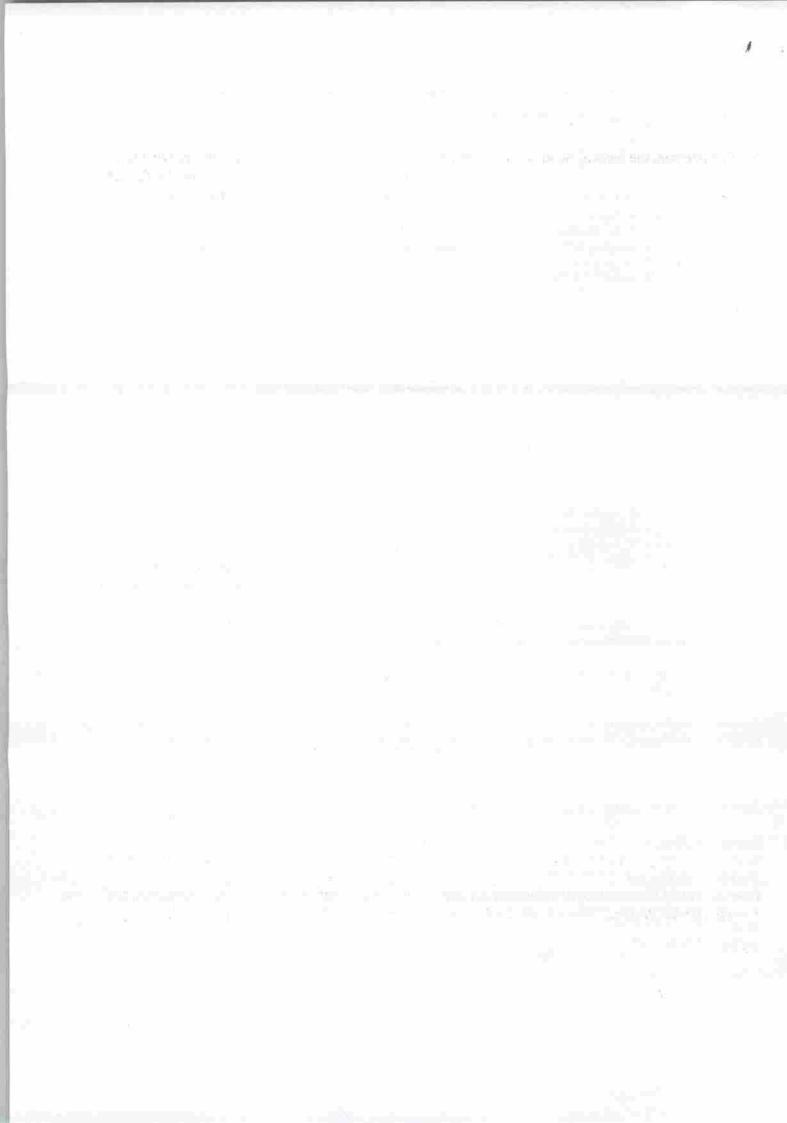
Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk







I am writing to express my reservations about the way wind farms are proliferating, at high cost, even though eminent power engineers in Europe and elsewhere have expressed the view that investing in wind is a big mistake. I can provide you with details of the investigations that have been carried out if you so wish. My own views are summarised below and I very much hope that you will reply to the points I make below.

Keith Anderson, the head of Scottish Power wants the Government to set new subsidies for wind farms and gas plants. He is right to say that new gas plants are urgently needed but there are good reasons for further investment in wind farms to be drastically curtailed. I have written to the DECC on numerous occasions but they simply refuse to engage with the points I am making. They simply reiterate their belief that Britain needs a balanced mix of energy sources, including wind farms. How they can igore the following is a complete mystery to me. And our economy is being damaged by huge wasteful expenditure on on-shore and off-shore wind turbines.

Fifteen years ago the Kyoto Protocol was signed by 37 Western Nations, including the UK, because they believed that global warming was on course tocause catastrophic climate change. A reduction in CO2 emissions of 4.7% on the 1990 level was duly agreed. Those nations now say that between 2008 and 2012 they reduced their CO2 emissions by 16%, not 4.7%.

But GLOBAL emissions of CO2 have, in fact, gone up by over 50%. We also know that on average there has been no significant change in temperature for the last fifteen years and that this "standstill" is expected to continue for at least another five years.

And there is another point. Many rich countries met their Kyoto CO2 reduction targets by moving their CO2intensive industries e.g. steel and aluminium manufacturing to nations which didn't sign the Protocol.

The Doha talks in December resulted in promises being made by the EU, and Australia among others that they would accept a new "compliance period" of another eight years i.e. up to 2020. But those countries only produce 14% of total CO2 emissions so whatever reductions they actually, not apparently, achieve will be swamped by the colossal increase in CO2 emissions from the developing nations. China and India in particular.

On top of the above considerations there is, most importantly, the fact that wind turbines do NOT reduce CO2 emissions to any significant extent because of the low thermal efficiency of the back-up gas turbines. The frequent need for the gas-fired back-up turbines to ramp their power outputs up and down, and on and off, unavoidably reduces their efficiency and is one of the reasons why wind turbines do not significantly reduce CO2 emissions. There is, in fact, evidence which shows that if all Britain's wind farns were switched off the back-up gas turbines could maintain power supplies to the grid without using any more gas than they did when they were operating in back-up mode. I can provide you with copies of technical papers written by eminent power engineers which describe the extensive studies they have carried out on this subject.

There is also, of equal imortance, the paper published by Professor Singer, of the University of Virginia, 27/04/2011, which demonstrated from first principles that anthropogenic ("man-made") CO2 emissions are only responsible for about 0.28% of the global greenhouse effect." Again, I will send you a copy of Professor Singer's paper if you so wish in which he concluded that "the CO2 reductions called for in the Kyoto Protocol would yield stastically negligible results in terms of measurable impacts to climate change." He also said that "there is no expectation that any statistically significant global warming reductions would come from the Kyoto Protocol." Even if all the signatories achieved their CO2 reduction targets!!!!

And we now know that they didn't achieve them.

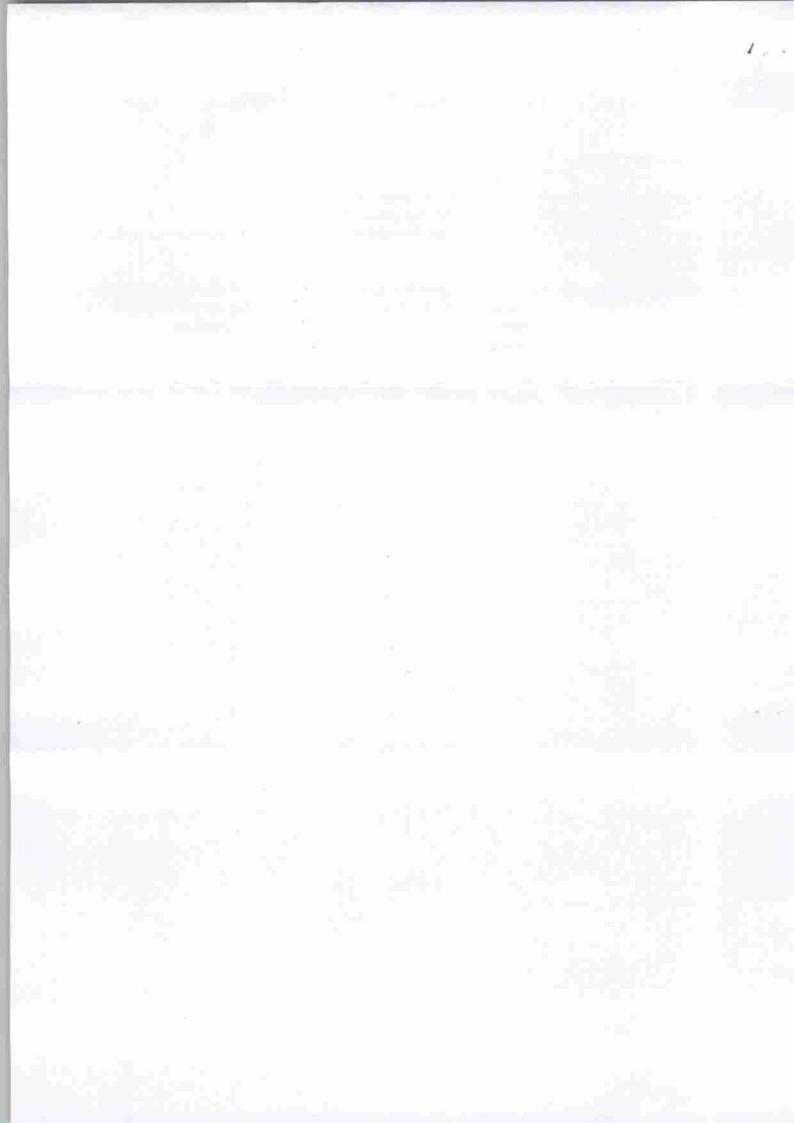
In conclusion, Professor Singer said that "THERE IS NO DISPUTE AT ALL ABOUT THE FACT THAT, EVEN IF PUNCTILIOUSLY OBSERVED, THE KYOTO PROTOCOL WOULD HAVE AN IMPERCEPTIBLE EFFECT ON FUTURE TEMPERATURES. ONE TWENTIETH OF A DEGREE BY THE YEAR 2050."

To put it all in simple terms.

- Man-made CO2 doesn't cause significant global warming.
- 2. Wind turbines make little difference to Britain's CO2 emissions
- Man-made CO2 emissions are rising and the only thing the Western nations can do is slow down the rate of increase to a very small extent.

Huge investments are being planned for more and more wind farms, particularly off-shore farms which at least doubles the capital costs. Much is made of the jobs which are being created but they are not "real" jobs. Much effort and expertise is being expended to build thousands of these giant machines which basically achieve nothing. It is money down the drain at a time of great economic difficulty.







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HH

25 March 2013

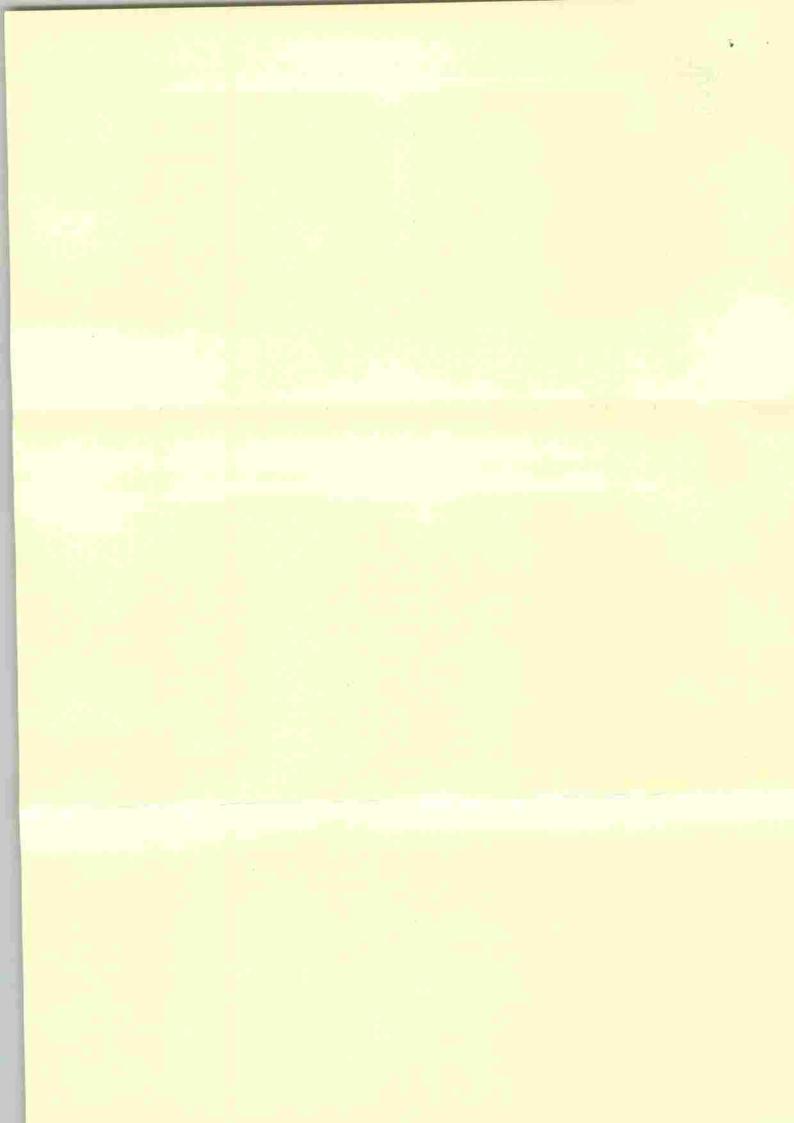
Dear Ed

Further to previous correspondence, I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about river dredging and renewable energy.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the additional points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Dear Mr Lilley

Many thanks for your letters of 21st January and 11th February enclosing responses from the two Ministers. I apologise for the delay in replying but I have been rereading their letters in an attempt to make complete sense of them.

I am somewhat amazed that there are two Depts. dealing with the problem of flooding although they are coming from two different directions. What a complete waste of time money and effort. If the Civil Service were a commercial organisation they would have one Dept dealing with this problem. I watched part of Country File last evening and they dealt with the above. Farmers want to do something but are frustrated be all the red tape from the Environment Agency.

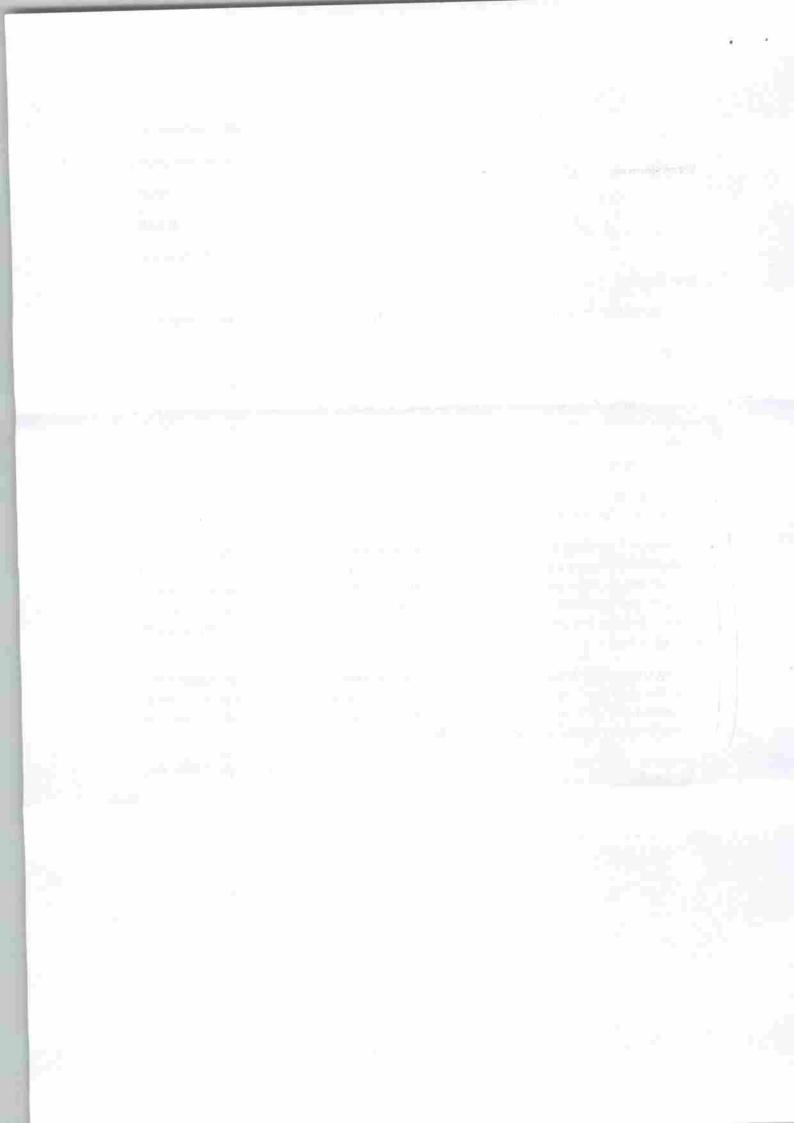
I would also point out they neither Minister answered my question about the depth of our rivers compared with 50 years ago.

In respect of Renewable Energy I fail to see how using an existing mill race can increase the risk of flooding whoever wrote such rubbish obviously lives in a town. Also they are more concerned about fish than energy. Many people are suffering because of the cost on energy. Wind Mills are very expensive and inefficient but still you persist. No doubt they do add to our energy. I travelled through Germany last year and all I could see were Solar Panels everywhere. I only saw ONE windmill on land.

I am not interested in being told how many GWs of power were installed in 1950 I am talking about NOW. The reply from Edward Davey proves my point above about TWO Agencies, when he states that they have to get PERMISSION from the Environment Agency. Just stop pussyfooting around and wasting Taxpayers money and start being efficient and pro-active.

I sometimes watch the reruns of 'Yes Minister' and they are as true today as they were when they were first shown. SIR HUMPHREY still lives.

The Conservatives came to power saying you would cut waste. From the replies I have received you appear to have failed in at least two Depts.



I do appreciate that you are only passing on information to me and I thank you most sincerely for your indulgence in these matters.







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

08 April 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about his support for amendments to the Energy Bill for the creation of a sustainable biomass sector.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



Subject: Please ensure the Energy Bill delivers for our climate and wildlife

Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP

Dear Mr Lilley,

I am writing to urge you to add your name to two amendments to the Energy Bill in support of the creation of a sustainable biomass sector. These amendments provide a critical safety net that will help ensure that public subsidies for burning unsustainable wood in power stations are limited and targeted at only the most efficient technologies.

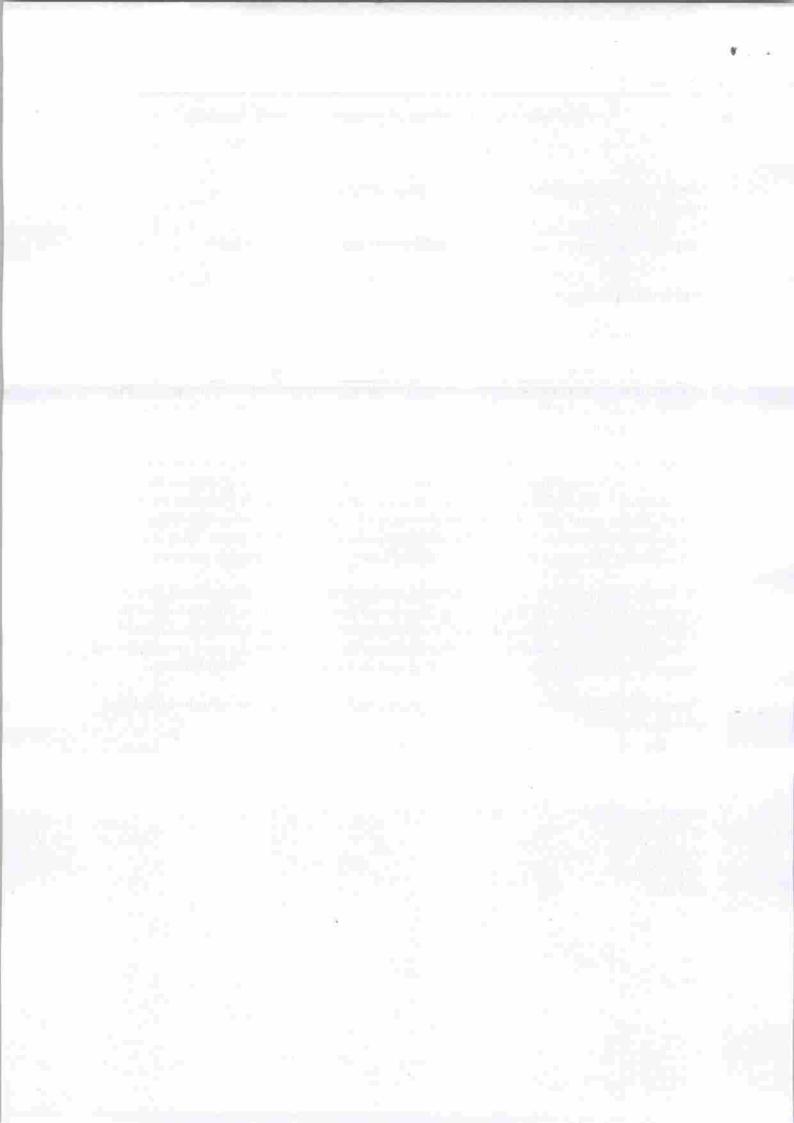
Current Government plans for subsidies for the sector will result in burning the equivalent of up to six times more wood than the entire harvest nationwide. This threatens to increase greenhouse gas emissions - The RSPB, Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace recently published a report entitled 'Dirtier than Coal?' showing that electricity generated using wood could increase greenhouse gas emissions by up to 49% compared to using coal over 40 years. They could also have a devastating impact on woodland wildlife in countries that will provide the wood.

The Energy Bill provides a unique opportunity to address this. The amendments will only allow long-term public support to be awarded to large power plants that want to burn biomass if they are fitted with combined heat and power or carbon capture and storage technology. This will ensure that subsidies are only given to efficient power plants that genuinely save greenhouse gas emissions, whilst helping to keep the overall size of the sector within sustainable limits.

Please support the creation of a sustainable biomass sector by adding your name to amendment numbers 32 and 33

Yours sincerely







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

- 1 MAY 2013

23 April 2013

Dear Ed

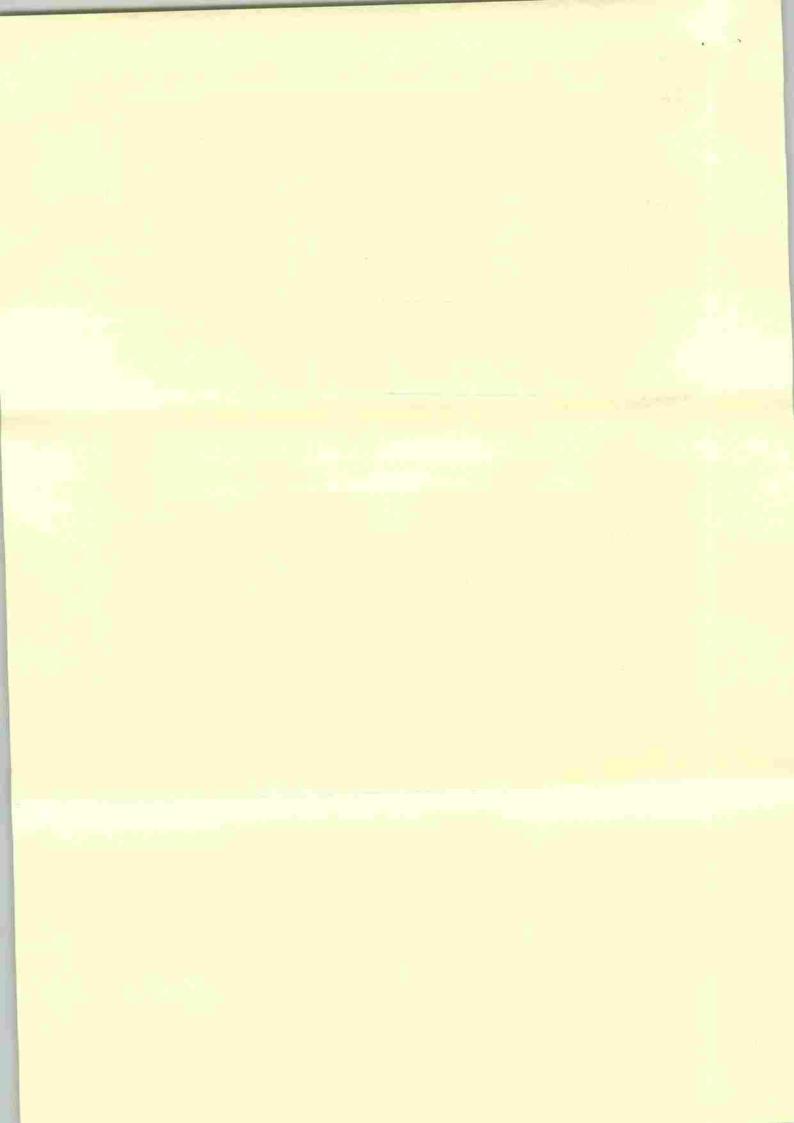
I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about energy costs.

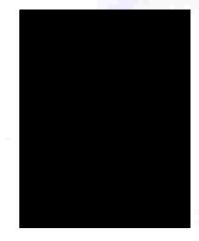
I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





The Rt. Honourable Peter Lilley MP House of Commons London SW1 0AA

Dear Mr. Lilley.

Further to my letter of the 8th of April, I again refer to the "The Cost of Power and water".

Notwithstanding the fact that I think the power companies should have the cost of power capped by government because there is no real competition, we constantly are told that the cost of wholesale power is ever increasing and that is why we are being charged more.

Please refer to the attachment:

"Nuclear Revival Dying in Europe as Power Prices Slump" (Feb 14, 2013)

This information was downloaded from the influential Bloomberg web-site. (Copy attached.)

I quote from various sections of this report:

"Now a combination of cheaper European power prices and carbon credits......"

"German wholesale power prices have more than halved since 2008......"

The point being that electricity in the UK, supposedly in a position as a member of the EU to take advantage of this sort of situation, only sees price increases?

What is the point of being a member of the EU?

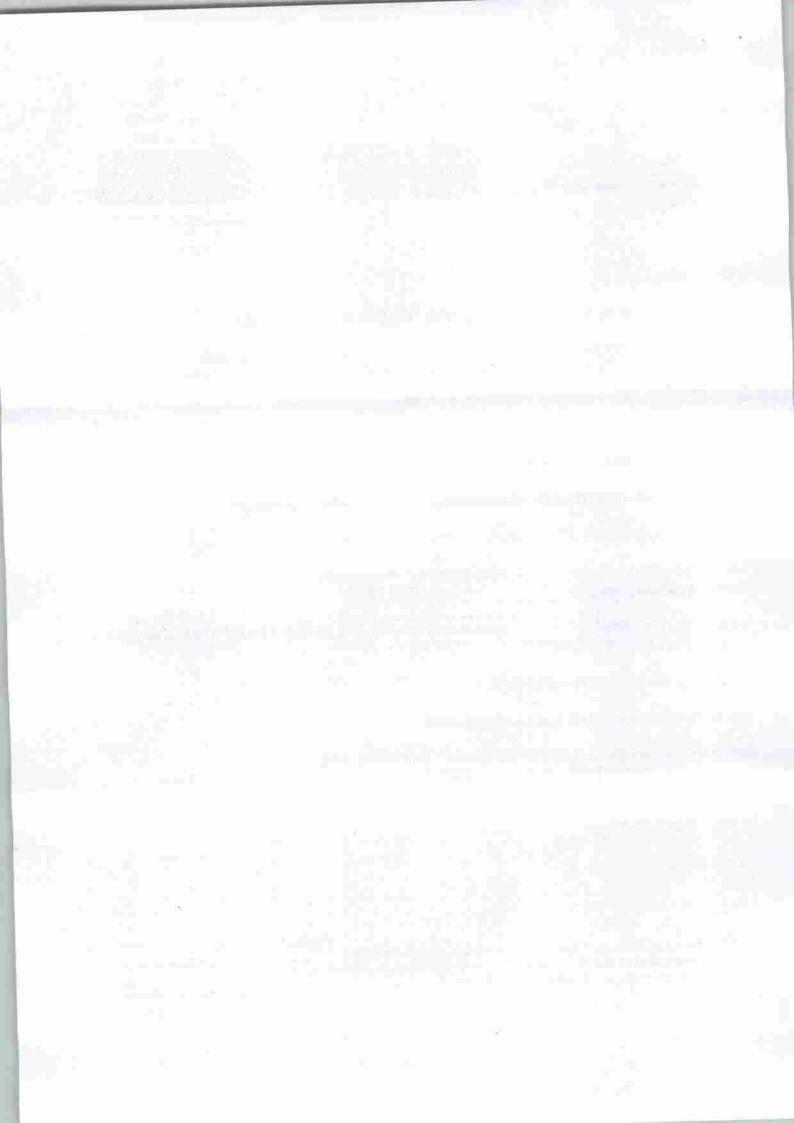
Why are the retail prices in the UK continuing to increase?

Someone is not telling the truth and your government is behind the curve again.

With all the costs of the "Quangos", "Boards of Enquiry" "Ombudsmen" and "Watchdogs" who is allowing this to happen ?

Mr. Lilley, to be frank, it is just not good enough.

Yours faithfully.



Nuclear Revival Dying in Europe as Power Prices Slump: Energy - Blo... Page 1 of 4

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Nuclear Revival Dying in Europe as Power Prices Slump: Energy

By Latida Sacerova - Feb 14, 2013 4,54 PM CART

13 COVIDENTS

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A Czech atomic-plant expansion planned near the German border had been one of the few prizes left for Europe's nuclear-power industry after the Fukushima disaster stopped projects from Switzerland to Romania.

Russian and U.S. contractors have prepared to bid for the \$10 billion contract to build two new reactors, Europe's largest competitive tender for a nuclear project. Now a combination of cheaper European power prices and carbon credits, falling demand for electricity and concern government support may falter leaves CEZ AS's project in doubt, analysts and investors said.



hirerov soul-fired somer ancien operated by CEZ, in Parism, Coroti Poseblin on Maryn 8 201 Storacher Visiting Wheel Storace or

"The future of nuclear energy in Europe looks very dim indeed," said Mycle Schneider, an independent consultant on energy and nuclear power based in Paris. "Nuclear is too capital intensive, too time-consuming and simply too risky."

Abandoning the Temelin project would deal another blow to the foundaring nuclear industry in Europe, and to contractors such as Russia's Rosatom Corp. and Westinghouse Electric Corp., after the 2011 accident at the Fukushima plant in Japan.

The catastrophe led Germany to set in motion the closure of all its reactors, while Italy and Switzerland dropped building plans. Projects already under way in France and Finland have suffered delays and cost overruns. The Czech Republic and the U.K. were seen as the the two European countries with the strongest commitment to new nuclear plants. Now projects in both countries are in doubt.

*At this point the Ternelin project has no market logic," said Michal Snobr, a CEZ shareholder and an energy adviser to J&T Bank in Prague. *Building the reactors now would be incredibly risky for CEZ and the Czech Republic in general."

Centrica Withdrawal

CEZ shares fell 1.4 percent to 625 koruna today in Prague, the steepest drop in a week. The utility lost 13 percent of its value last year and a further 8.1 percent since the beginning of this

Temelin's future looks even less certain after Centrica Pic balled out of the plan to build atomic plants in the U.K. on Feb. 4. A day later, Electricite de France SA threatened to do the same unless the U.K. government ensures the project is profitable.

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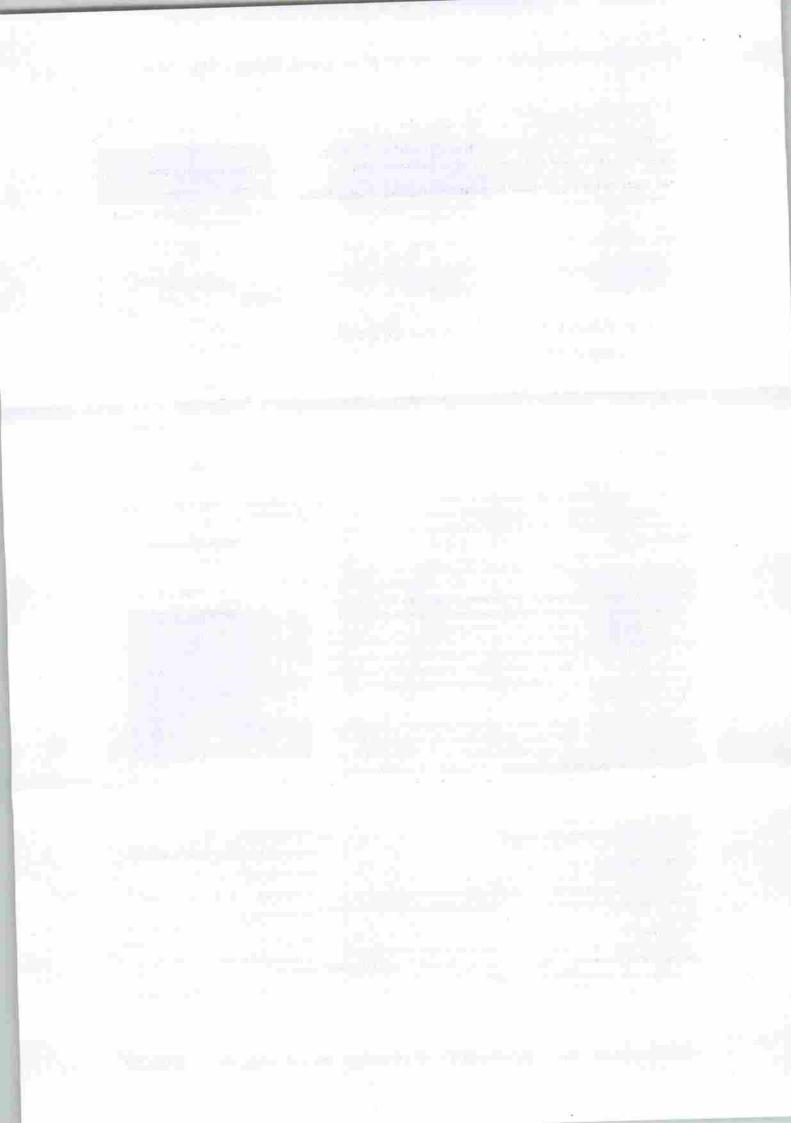
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That doesn't bode well for CEZ, which has cited the U.K. modal of government support as an inspiration. The Czech utility is asking the government, its majority shareholder, to guarantee future purchase price of electricity to ensure that it gets return on its investment, Chief Financial Officer Martin Novak said in a Feb. 1 interview in the Bloomberg office.

"The negotiations have only just started," Novak said. "There has to be a consensus for such a type of support all through the political spectrum that would last a really long time."

Wind Turbines

German wholesale power prices have more than halved since 2008 as the economic crisis cut demand and wind turbines and solar panels increased supply, while a stump in EU carbon permits to a record low has removed much of nuclear's advantage over fossil fuels. At the same time, increased technical scrutiny after Fukushima has raised the cost of new reactors

The move away from nuclear in the European Union stands in contrast to other parts of the world. China has 26 reactors under construction, more than a third of the world's total, according to data from the Nuclear Energy Institute. Russia is building 11 units and India

While the Czech government says it wants new reactors to replace coal plants and reduce dependence on Russian gas, consensus is proving difficult to find. The center-right government of Prime Minister Petr Necas is battling plunging popularity and had to face as many as five no-confidence votes in the parliament since 2010 as it carried out deficit cuts, raised the sales tax and curbed public spending.

Political Loss

The opposition Social Democratic party would get 84 of 200 seats in the lower house of partiament if elections were held now, compared with 42 seats for Neces's Civic Democrats and 29 for the junior coalition partner TOP09, according to a Stem poll conducted in January. Regular partiamentary elections are scheduled for next year.

A government led by Social Democrats would provide "absolutely no guarantees" on power generated by Ternelin as such a plan has the potential to increase the budget deficit and state debt, the party's shadow finance minister Jan Mladak said in an interview last month.

CEZ, in which the state holds a 70 percent stake, is scheduled to sign a contract with the winner of the Ternelin tender before the end of this year. Westinghouse Electric Corp. and a Russian-Czech consortium led by Rosatom Corp.'s unit Atomstroyexport are the sole competitors after CEZ threw out Areva SA's bid last October. Areva has filed an appeal with the Czech antitrust office over the exclusion and is trying to block the tender process.

Strategic Investor

CEZ's hopes of finding a strategic investor willing to help finance the new Temelin reactors have been disappointed. Most European utilities are selling assets and reducing spending rather than looking for new projects, CFO Novak said.

*The Finnish model of financing where a few industrial companies put funds together and get a share in the plant is not very realistic in the Czech Republic," Novak said. "We have to work with the scenario that we do it by ourselves."

CEZ is capable of funding new Temelin reactors on its own using a combination of cash flow and debt, CFO Novak said. The project makes economic sense even at the current power prices, according to the executive.

Analysts disagree.

Power Price Weakness

"CEZ's inability to finance the nuclear investment could not be excluded," Credit Suisse analysts Piotr Ozieciolowski and Vincent Gilles said in a Feb. 1 report. "Sustainable

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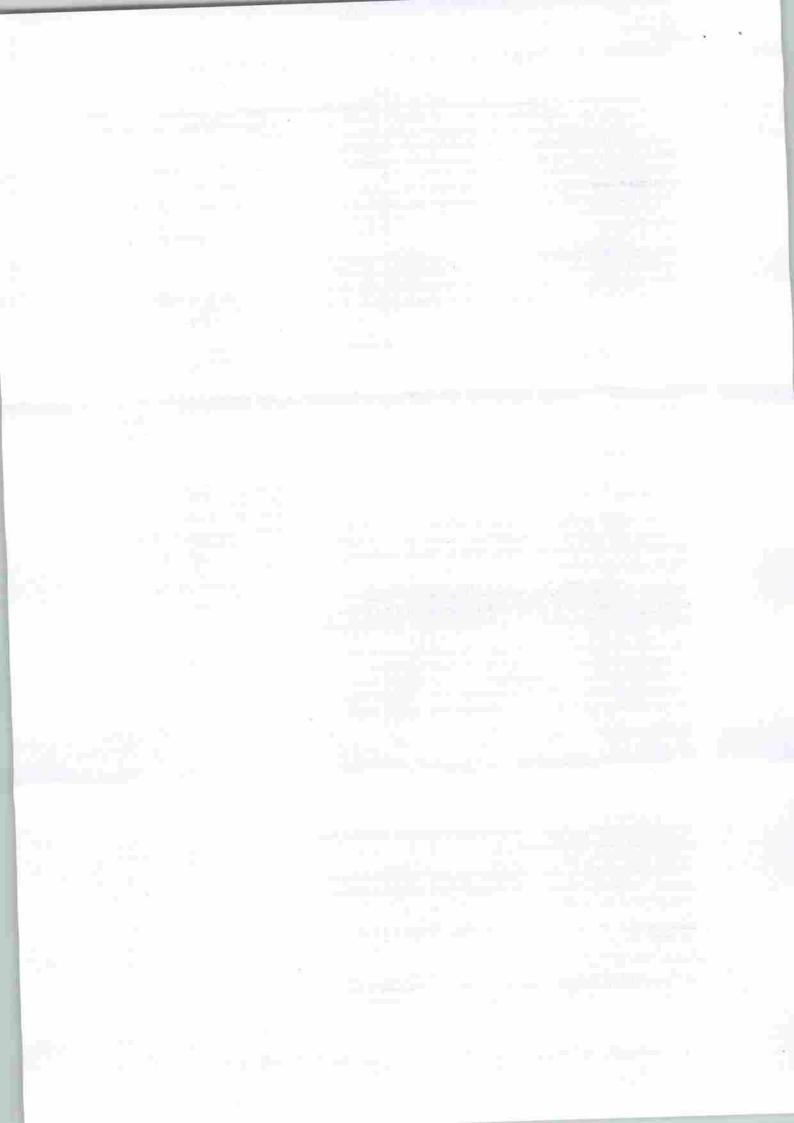
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Nuclear Revival Dying in Europe as Power Prices Slump: Energy - Blo... Page 3 of 4

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profitability of CEZ is significantly worse than current guidance, which is largely supported by hedging."

Prices of electricity would have to rise to at least 50 euros per megawatt-hour and remain stable for the rest of the decade to make Ternelin possible, Credit Suisse said. Erste Bank AG analyst Petr Bartek lowered his 2014 profit estimates for CEZ by as much as 10 percent, citing weak power prices.

Lack of financing has statled nuclear projects elsewhere in eastern Europe. Romania is struggling to find investors for its Cernavoda plant. RWE AG, GDF Suez SA, Iberdrola SA and CEZ pulled out of the 4 billion-euro project in 2011. Bulgaria has been unable to lure more investors to its aborted Belene project, estimated to cost at least 5.3 billion euros. The Lithuanian government is reviewing the plan to build a new 1,350 megawatt reactor in Visaginas, which was rejected by voters in a non-binding referendum in October.

Even CEZ has hinted signing a contract doesn't mean it will go ahead and build the reactors. The company still has three years before actual construction begins, and it may decide to back out of the project before 2017 if market conditions deteriorate further, Novak said.

"The time for making the final decision is still relatively long," he said. "Then we can look at it

To contact the reporter on this story: Ladka Bauerova in Prague at ibauerova@bloomberg.net

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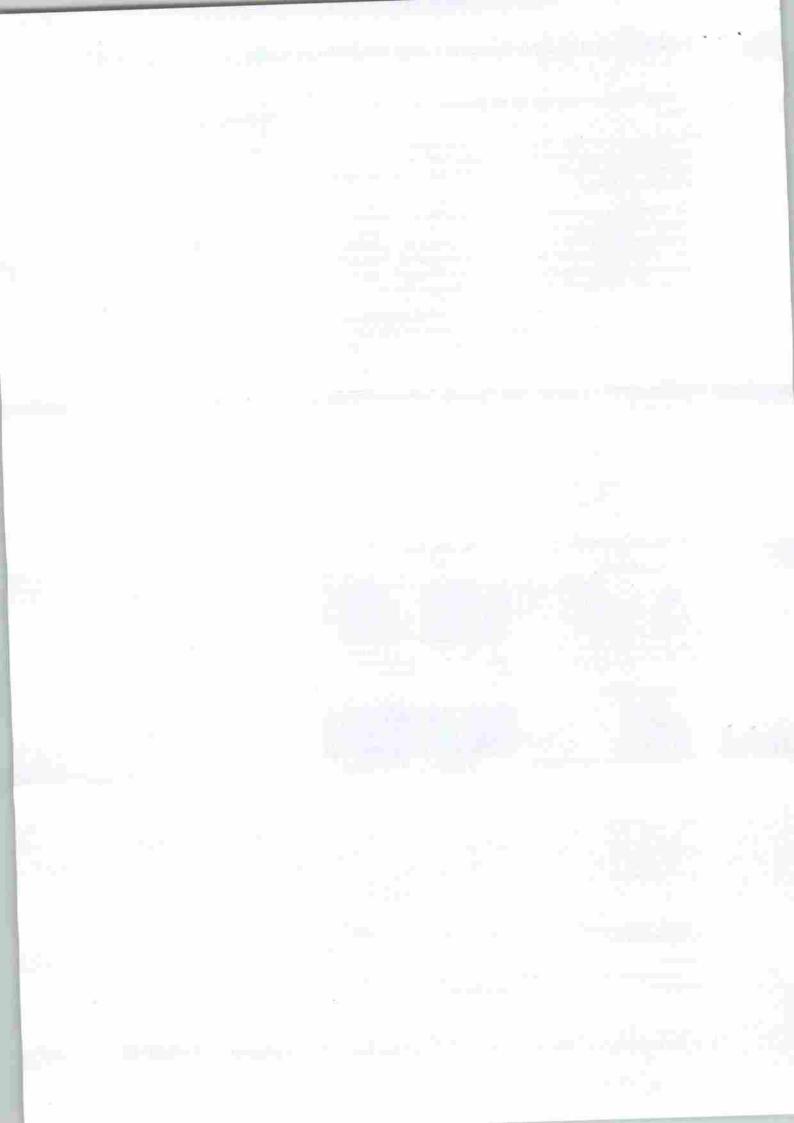
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Showing 3 of 13 comments on Nuclear Revival Dying in Europe as Power Prices Slump: Energy

williampinsky tohous ago

Hydro is the least expensive base load electric generation, costing less than half nuclear, and without the problems posed by nuclear waste storage and nuclear weapon proliferation. Do we really want Iran building





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

30 July 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about energy costs.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

hasigned in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Dear Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP,

As my MP, I hope you will support the Stop the Energy Swindle campaign to cut the taxes that are adding so much to our energy bills. Taxes are already more than a fifth of a typical bill and they are set to increase prices by nearly another third by 2020 and double them by 2030.

You need to take serious action to cut energy taxes. Not just pretend to be angry at energy companies while promising them fat profits if they invest to meet European Union climate targets. There are three critical changes that are needed:

 Cut subsidies for expensive sources of energy like wind turbines. Offshore wind in particular is enormously expensive and driving up energy costs.

Scrap the carbon price floor for the EU Emissions Trading System. It increases prices for British families and businesses but does nothing to reduce overall emissions.

 Drop artificial obstacles to the development of new affordable sources of energy like British shale gas and efficient modern coal power plants.

Other European countries have cut renewable energy subsidies in order to ease the burden on families struggling to make ends meet since the recession. We should do the same thing here. Britain pressing ahead alone will do nothing for the climate, but it will make life a lot harder for families and drive industry out of Britain – costing people their jobs.

Thank you for reading my email and I hope that you will support action for affordable energy. If you want to find out more, you can visit energyswindle.org.

Yours sincerely,









Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

15 August 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter and enclosure I have received from the above constituent of mine about the use of thorium as an alternative nuclear fuel.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay



Rithon. Peter Lilley M.P. (As from) House of Commons. London.

THORIUM, A SAFER AND CHEAPER ALTERNATIVE TO URANIUM?

Dear Mr Lilley,

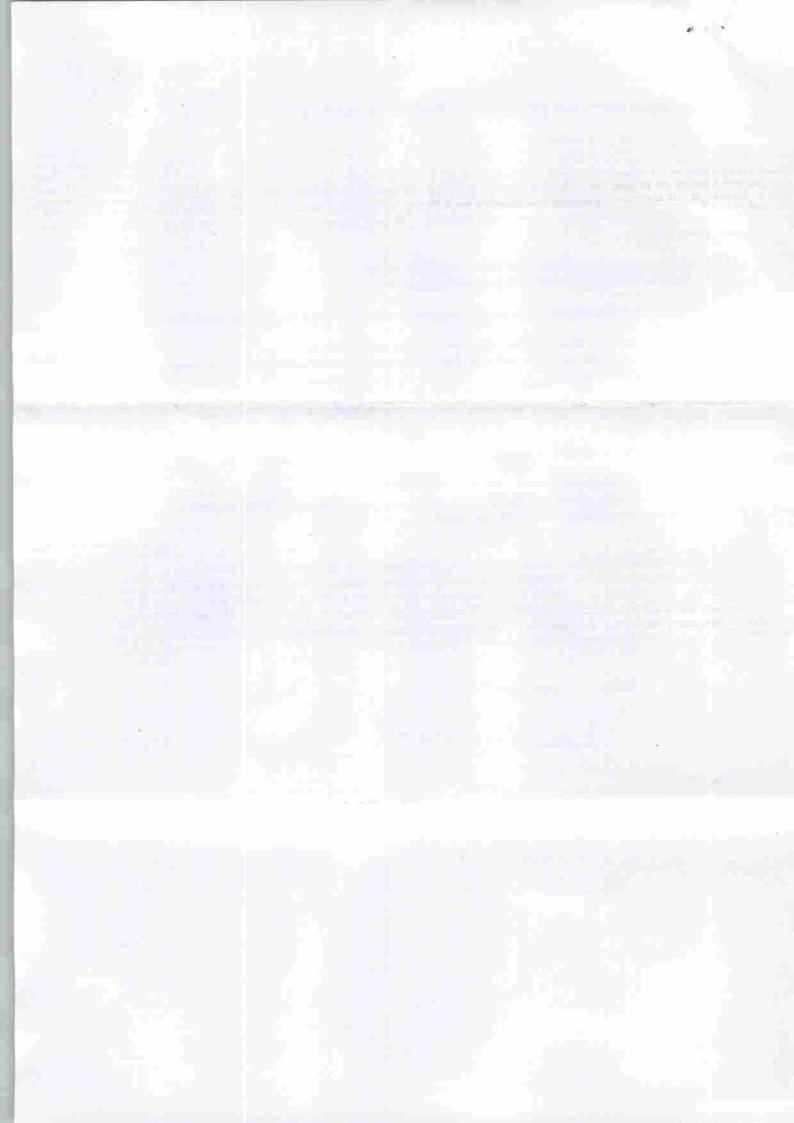
I draw attention to the enclosed article by the Bishop of Hereford - published in the Church Times on May 3rd '13. As the Bishop is secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Thorium Energy it is clearly a subject being taken seriously in government - although it does not yet appear to be in the public domain.

I quote in a summary way, some of the points the Bishop makes:

- 1. Thorium is at least four times more plentiful than uranium.
- 2. It is safer for three reasons a) Its reactors' temperatures can be self regulating and can be switched off instantly.
- b) The radio active isotopes created are less easily used for nuclear weapons.
- c) Thorium creates much less waste, and what does remain is much less radio-active and dangerous than waste from uranium reactors.
- Thorium reactors would enable the burning of existing nuclear waste cutting the cost of its long years of storage.
- 4. Thorium is utterly safe I.e.it is not radio active until the nuclear process is started to make it a fuel.
- 5. One tonne of thorium could power a city of one million people for a year. (Equivalent to 200 tonnes of uranium to do this), and the quantity of carbon dioxide emissions would be miniscule compared to that from uranium or coal to produce the same power.

I write on behalf of and ask that you take up our concern, and that of the Bishop, that there should be a strategic plan to switch from uranium to this clearly safer, cheaper and widely available greener fuel. First money should be budgeted for the research necessary, and the research should be conducted with international cooperation. The news of thorium as an alternative to uranium makes us feel much more positive about the future regarding our energy supplies. We hope the Government will take these positive steps.





Thorium: it's green, nuclear, safe

An alternative nuclear fuel could answer the main energy problems, says Anthony Priddis

WILL we have enough energy from power stations in 20 years' time? What about our carbon footprint? Is nuclear power a safe option? These vital questions have led me to look again at thorium, an alternative nuclear fuel to uranium. Thorium can help us answer all these questions, but only if our Government commits itself to the development of it as a fuel

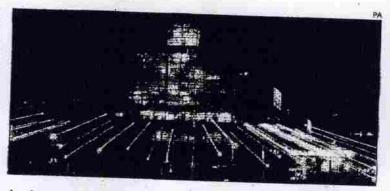
The House of Lords was grap-pling with these issues last week, in a debate about how nuclear power could help the UK meet its goals for climate change and energy security. It was a timely debate, after the publication at the end of March of the Government's Review of UK nuclear research and development, and the new Nuclear Industrial Strategy.

These two documents give a clear message that we need to increase significantly our nuclear capacity between now and 2050. To avoid dangerous global warming, the re-view suggests that we need a nearly five-fold increase from current levels of 18 per cent reliance on nuclear energy to more than 85 per cent.

The government report is set against the background of a dramspecial the bassground of a dram-tic increase in oil prices since 2005, and an increasing international gap between the supply and demand of oil since 2010, projections that arth's temperature will rise more han 4°C within 50 years, and our wn Government's committing us o an 80-per-cent reduction in arbon-dioxide emissions by 2050.

Sir David King, the chief scientic adviser to the previous Govern-tent, argues that the Italian balance payments was in the black in 1000, but has now gone €38 billion to the red, of which €34 billion is ne to the increased cost of im-orted oil since the turn of the illennium.

The UK is also moving towards creasing dependency on oil and s imports because of the fall in orth Sea production: now, nearly per cent of our national annual ide deficit goes on increased ergy imports. Bankers may have a od deal to answer for with our



An alternative to this? Dungeness Nuclear Power Station, in Kent

economic crisis, but so does the cost of fossil-fuel energy.

WHEN most of us think of nuclear energy, we think of uranium solidreactors, and, probably quite quickly, of Fukushima, Chernobyl, and Three Mile Island. We go on to think of huge quantities of nuclear waste that no one knows what to do with. Not far behind come our concerns about Iran, North Korea, terrorist threats, and nuclear weapons. It forms a sad and worrying list.

Uranium, however, is not the only possible nuclear fuel. It has long been known that an alternative, namely thorium, is at least four times more plentiful, the largest quantities being in Australia, India, the United States, and Norway. Thorium has huge advantages over uranium. It is safer in several different ways.

First, Thorium can be used in molten-salt reactors, the temperature of which self-regulates and can be "switched off" instantly. Second, the way in which thorium is burned as a nuclear fuel means that the radioactive isotopes that are created are less easily used for nuclear weapons, because the thorium fuel cycle produces no plutonium.

Third, thorium creates much less waste, and what does remain is significantly less radioactive and dangerous than the waste from uranium reactors. Most of the radioactive products will become inert within just 30 years, as compared

with hundreds of years from uranium reactors.

Furthermore, thorium reactors would enable us to burn much of our existing nuclear waste, which is costing a vast amount to store and decommission. What is currently regarded as "waste" could be turned into fuel, and become an asset.

A bar of the element thorium is as safe as a bar of soap. Thorium itself is not radioactive, but becomes so in the nuclear processes that use

One tonne of thorium could power a city of a million people for a year. The uranium equivalent is 200 tonnes. It would take more than three million tennes of coal to provide the same amount of power, which would produce more than eight million tonnes of carbon dioxide to pollute the atmosphere.

YOU might be wondering why you have never heard about thorium before, and why the world has not invested in it in a big way. These are good questions. The answer is primarily that nuclear power and nuclear weapons have been so closely linked since the 1930s that nearly all the research money and time has gone into uranium.

The most significant factor was that the US Navy needed to develop nuclear submarines if it was to be able to "deliver" nuclear weapons. Without that capacity, the US Navy would have had little future.

The research and development needed to bring our knowledge of thorium up to the same level as that of uranium is neither quick nor cheap. China is currently investing \$350 million into thorium moltensalt reactors. India has committed itself to thorium research.

There are opportunities for us to work internationally and collaboratively at the moment, but the window of opportunity might well be closed, if China ends up with advances that it does not want to share fully with others.

There is also scope to build on the existing work being done with Norway, and, to a lesser degree, with France, besides establishing stronger links with the work currently going on in India. We have considerable expertise, particularly in how molten salts behave, that we can bring to the international table.

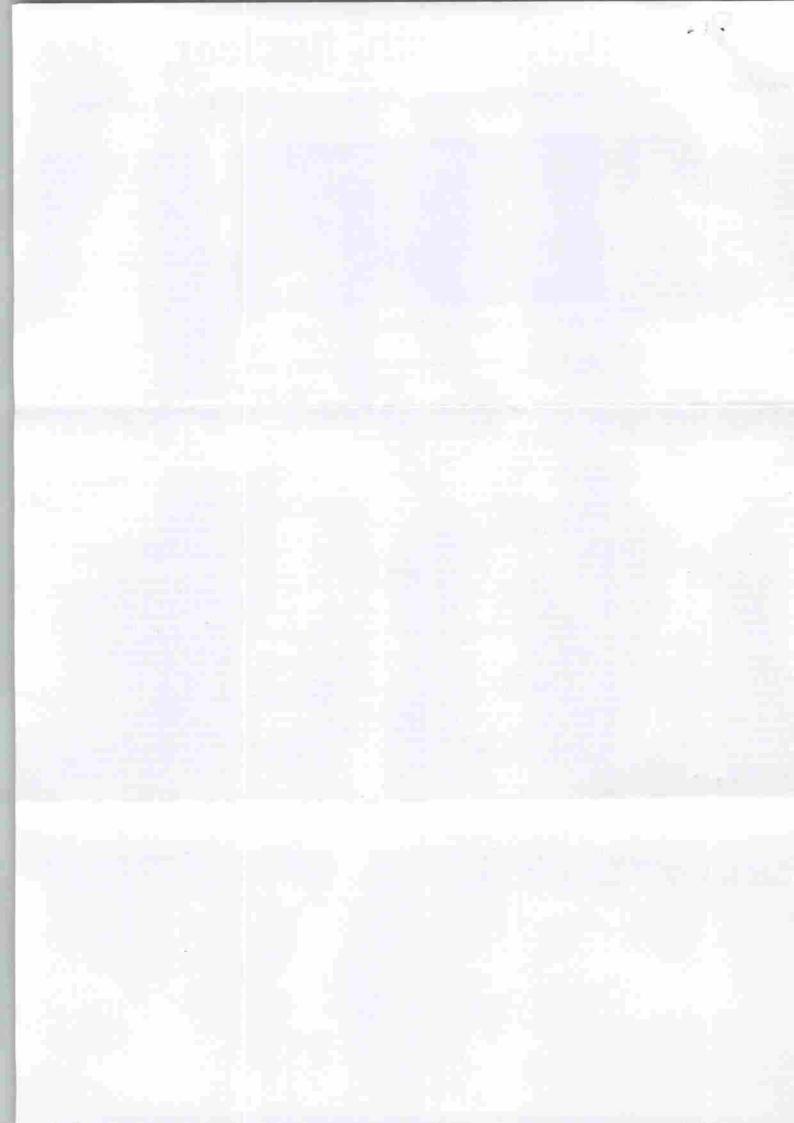
What we need is:

- more awareness of the advantages of thorium as a safe, green fuel;
- · vastly more money spent on research and development;
- international co-operation;
 a convincing Government-led strategy to enable us to get there.

The importance of thorium for fuelling the world is too great for its development to continue to be overlooked. The reasons for preferring uranium in the 1930s have now been stood on their head, and have become good reasons for preferring thorium to uranium. Thorium cannot easily be used for nuclear weaponry, has fewer radioactive waste products, can be used at higher temperatures and in moltenfuel form, and is safer and greener. Because of the lead-time of ten to 15 years for research and development, there must be government invest-ment based on clear, strategic thinking. We need this now.

The Rt Revd Anthony Priddis is the Bishop of Hereford, and secretary of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Thorium Energy.

Church Times 3 5.13.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

21 October 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about Chinese investment in the construction of Hinkley Point C Plant in Somerset.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Bridge Buds Till an

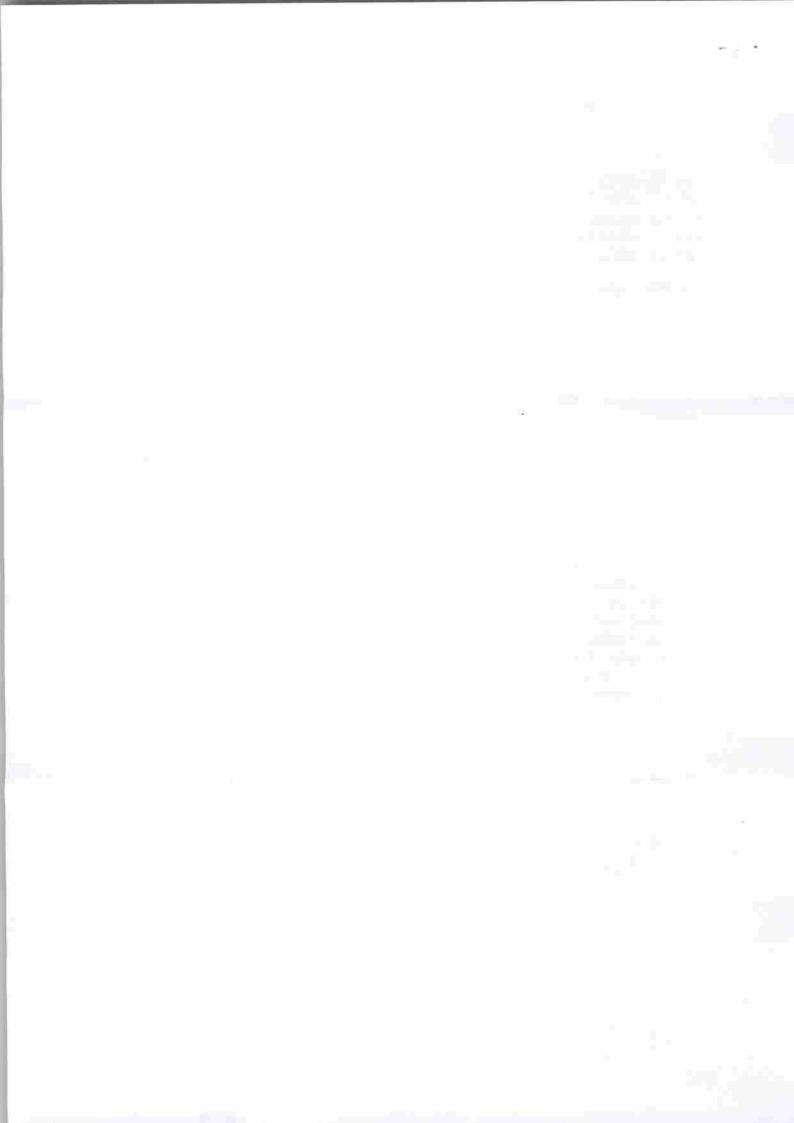
Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Comments: Having recently learnt of the agreement to allow the Chinese communications giant Huawei access to our communications infrastructure, with much concern, I am appalled today to learn that the Chinese are to buy into our nuclear industry. The fact that in both industries we used to have a world lead is sad, but climbing into bed with China, a command economy with a dreadful human rights record, an increasingly belligerent world posture and about whose future intentions we know so little, seems mad. What happens in the future if we wish to raise concerns about Tibet, will the Chinese quietly apply pressure to our sources of power? In light of concerns raised in Parliament about security issues, as well as the refusal of US and Australian Governments to allow Huawei (with it's alleged connections to the Chinese military) access to their markets, our course of action is rash to say the least. I and many if not most others do not trust Chinese assurances of fair play. Fina!

lly, what are we getting out of this ministerial kowtowing, is British industry now being granted greater access to Chinese markets and contracts? It seems our competitors do not have to prostrate themselves to anything like this extent to gain advantage in the Chinese markets, why should we make ourselves an international laughing stock?





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

23 October 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about energy policy.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



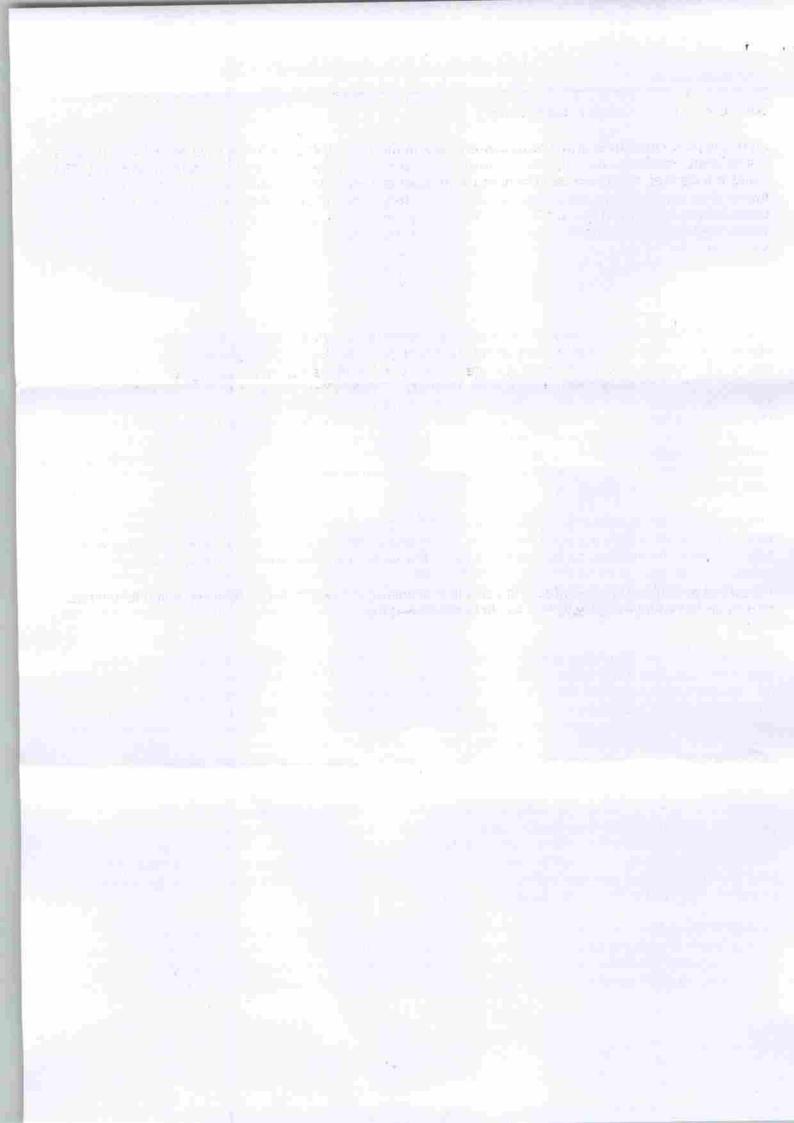


The article focuses on recent German experience of energy costs and carries the sub-title "Europe's electricity providers face an existential threat". Of most concern is the fact that on June 16th this year, the price of electricity in Germany for 1MWh was minus €100. This made me wonder, having just switched my energy provider away from British Gas for the first time, why policy makers have created such a mess where the cost of energy increases all the time, when it is perfectly possible with the right mix of energy sources for energy to be produced at virtually nil cost, and so passed to the consumer for much less than is the case today.

I ask myself the question, what would the world look like if the grid price for energy was minus £120 per MWh every day? And if this is the world we want to live in - a world where energy is as cheap as can possibly be - how do we get ourselves there? Part of the answer lies in not forcing the energy companies to levy the cost of expensively subsidised wind farms, but to insist that the costs arise purely from the profit to be gained from these infrastructure installations in the first place. Not only would this cut the number of such unsustainable projects, but it would also mean that the economic case for them would require an essentially different projection. The Germans suffer a residential energy cost of €285 per MWh against a generation cost/ price of €38 per MWh, among the highest differential in the world.

I mentioned when we met at the weekend that it seems to me the business model for the UK energy providers, the "big six", is increasingly flawed. I worry that the effect of this will be continuous price rises (which for PR purposes will be blamed on the renewable levy) foisted upon an unsuspecting public. This means not only that we need tighter regulation of the gas producer-sellers, but government intervention to help them change their business model from the upstream-downstream model to one of energy service providers. This is what the Economist article suggests.

So what of the future? We suffer in this country from a chronic lack of long term planning - not just in energy, which was all but forgotten by the Blair government that refused steadfastly to consider a nuclear solution, another reason we are where we are - but also in infrastructure planning on transport. Successive governments need to adopt a workable agenda of their predecessors in working towards a sensible mix of



traditional and renewable power generation. Gas power generators need to be on standby for peak power with the remaining industry being provided by a mix of nuclear, clean coal and renewable. With sufficient investment in renewables of the right kind, the UK can be energy independent, but this should not, in my view, come at the expense of the taxpayer.

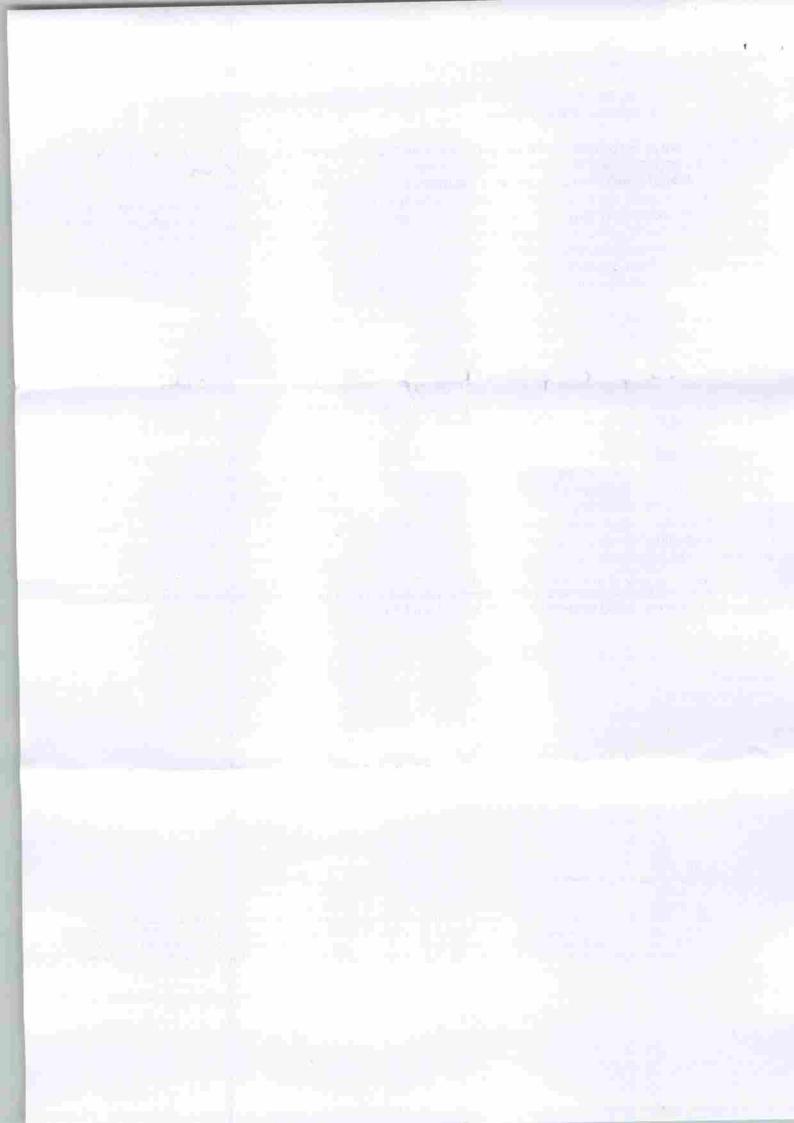
All of the policy initiatives of the Brown government in this field seemed to me to have been driven towards a supplicant workforce and controlled industry, for ever to be grateful for the handouts from Whitehall. The result is a disaster, where we seem to have too much of the wrong kind of renewable provision.

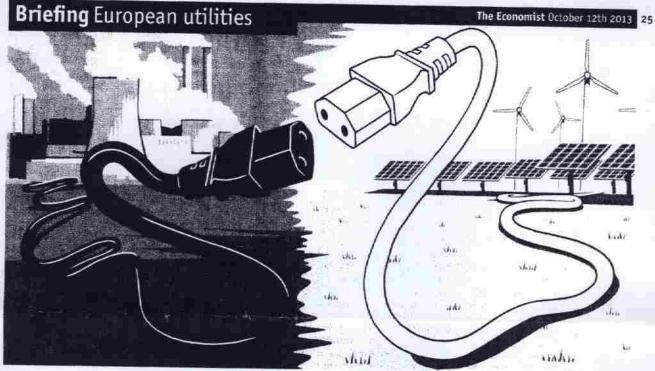
If only those in Ed Davy's department would do more to review, promote and provide government aid to these emergent technologies, a new blend of renewable technology would arise. The investment from Government is needed not in the subsidies to customers to sell back their over-generated energy to the grid but to these small innovation companies to get their technologies tested, passed through compliance and out into the market place. Sadly, thus far, our view of the Carbon Trust is that it is an organisation without the capacity to consider technologies that do not fit with the government fashion of the day and I believe this is subduing innovation and technological advance. It acts as a barrier to technology, not a promoter.

It was a relief to hear this morning's announcement about Hinkley Point. This offers some hope for future generations, but more is needed and until we can work towards a more comprehensive mix of energy generation capacity, the same problems will continue. Quite how one can produce a sufficient consensus on a long term solution (50 plus years) that will survive successive changes of governments, is beyond me. It is probably hopeless as your recent commentary on the IPCC demonstrates, but I would welcome a different type of debate on these matters than has been possible until very recently. The coalition is winning more and more of the arguments. All we need now is a Conservative government with a working majority.

I know I have rambled on somewhat, but I should welcome your thoughts in this field and if you feel minded to pass on this email to Ed Davy, that would be welcomed too.

Kind regards,





How to lose half a trillion euros

Europe's electricity providers face an existential threat

N JUNE 16th something very peculiar happened in Germany's electricity market. The wholesale price of electricity fell to minus €100 per megawatt hour (MWh). That is, generating companies were having to pay the managers of the grid to take their electricity. It was a bright, breezy Sunday. Demand was low. Between 2pm and 3pm, solar and wind generators produced 28.9 gigawatts (GW) of power, more than half the total. The grid at that time could not cope with more than 45GW without becoming unstable. At the peak, total generation was over 51GW; so prices went negative to encourage cutbacks and protect the grid from overloading.

The trouble is that power plants using nuclear fuel or brown coal are designed to run full blast and cannot easily reduce production, whereas the extra energy from solar and wind power is free. So the burden of adjustment fell on gas-fired and hardcoal power plants, whose output plummeted to only about 10% of capacity.

These events were a microcosm of the changes affecting all places where renewable sources of energy are becoming more important-Europe as a whole and Germany in particular. To environmentalists these changes are a story of triumph. Renewable, low-carbon energy accounts for an ever-greater share of production. It is

helping push wholesale electricity prices down, and could one day lead to big reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions. For established utilities, though, this is a disaster. Their gas plants are being shouldered aside by renewable-energy sources. They are losing money on electricity generation, They worry that the growth of solar and wind power is destabilising the grid, and may lead to blackouts or brownouts. And they point out that you cannot run a normal business, in which customers pay for services according to how much they consume, if prices go negative. In short, they argue, the growth of renewable energy is undermining established utilities and replacing them with something less reliable and much more expensive.

Power down

The decline of Europe's utilities has certainly been startling. At their peak in 2008, the top 20 energy utilities were worth roughly €1 trillion (\$1.3 trillion). Now they are worth less than half that (see chart 1 on next page). Since September 2008, utilities have been the worst-performing sector in the Morgan Stanley index of global share prices. In 2008 the top ten European utilities all had credit ratings of A or better. Now only five do.

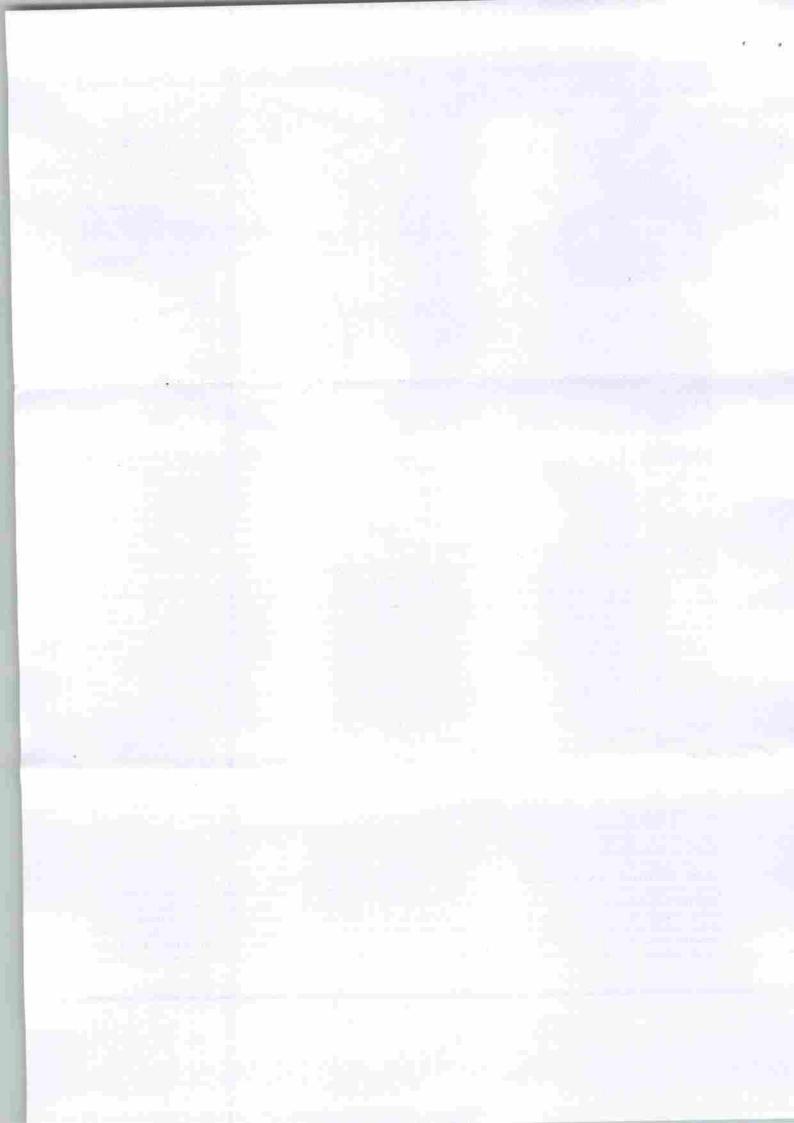
The rot has gone furthest in Germany,

where electricity from renewable sources has grown fastest. The country's biggest utility, E.ON, has seen its share price fall by three-quarters from the peak and its income from conventional power generation (fossil fuels and nuclear) fall by more than a third since 2010. At the second-largest utility, RWE, recurrent net income has also fallen by a third since 2010. As the company's chief financial officer laments, 'Conventional power generation, quite frankly, as a business unit, is fighting for its economic survival."

The companies would have been in trouble anyway, whatever happened to renewables. During the 2000s, European utilities overinvested in generating capacity from fossil fuels, boosting it by 16% in Europe as a whole and by more in some countries (up 91% in Spain, for example). The market for electricity did not grow by nearly that amount, even in good times; then the financial crisis hit demand. According to the International Energy Agency, total energy demand in Europe will decline by 2% between 2010 and 2015.

Two influences from outside Europe added to the problems. The first was the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan. This panicked the government of Angela Merkel into ordering the immediate closure of eight of Germany's nuclear-power plants and a phase out of the other nine by 2022. The abruptness of the change added to the utilities' woes, though many of the plants were scheduled for closure anyway.

The other influence was the shale-gas bonanza in America. This displaced to Europe coal that had previously been burned in America, pushing European coal prices down relative to gas prices. At the same >>



time, carbon prices crashed because there were too many permits to emit carbon in Europe's emissions-trading system and the recession cut demand for them. This has reduced the penalties for burning coal, kept profit margins at coal-fired power plants healthy and slashed them for gasfired plants. Gérard Mestrallet, chief executive of GDF Suez, the world's largest electricity producer, says 30Gw of gas-fired capacity has been mothballed in Europe since the peak, including brand-new plants. The increase in coal-burning pushed German carbon emissions up in 2012-13, the opposite of what was supposed to happen.

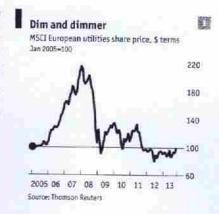
So the gas and nuclear bits of the utilities' business were heading for trouble even before the renewables bonanza, making the growth of solar and wind all the more disruptive. Renewables capacity (which is much higher than output) is almost half of electricity-generating capacity in Germany and roughly one-third in Spain and Italy. Total capacity, including renewables, is way above peak demand in all three countries. So renewables have added mightily to oversupply.

Excess supply plus depressed demand equals lower prices. Electricity prices have fallen from over €80 per Mwh at peak hours in Germany in 2008 to just €38 per Mwh now (see chart 2). (These are wholesale prices; residential prices are €285 per Mwh, some of the highest in the world, partly because they include subsidies for renewables that are one-and-a-half times, per unit of energy, the power price itself). As wholesale prices fall, so does the profitability of power plants. Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF), a data-provider, reckons that 30-40% of RWE's conventional power stations are losing money.

But that is only the half of it. Renewables have not just put pressure on margins. They have transformed the established business model for utilities. Michael Liebreich, BNEF's chief executive, compares them to telephone companies in the 1990s, or newspapers facing social media now: "It is an existential threat," he says.

Peak punishment

Back in the 1980s, providing electricity was a relatively simple affair. You guaranteed a constant supply of power by building plants that ran on coal, nuclear energy (if you wanted it) or hydropower (if you had it). You ran these full blast around the clock—for technical reasons, coal and nuclear plants cannot easily be shut down anyway. And that provided "baseload power" (the amount always needed). Then, to supply extra electricity at peak times (like lunchtime or early evening) you had plants that could more easily be powered up and down, such as gas-fired ones. If you imagine a chart of power provision during the day, it looks like a layer cake: the



bottom layers are flat (nuclear, coal and so forth); the layer at the top (gas) is wavy.

Deregulation swept away this tidy, ordered system, letting power plants produce according to the marginal cost of electricity. The advent of renewable energy then speeded up the changes. Renewables have "grid priority", meaning the grid must take their electricity first. This is a legal requirement, to encourage renewable energy in Europe. But it is also logical: since the marginal cost of wind and solar power is zero, grids would take their power first anyway. So renewable energy slots in at the bottom of the layer cake. But unlike the baseload providers already in place (nuclear and coal), solar and wind power are intermittent, surging with the weather. So the bottom layers of the cake are wavy, too.

Now, when demand fluctuates, it may not be enough just to lower the output of gas-fired generators. Some plants may have to be switched off altogether and some coal-fired ones turned down. This happened on June 16th. It is costly because scaling back coal-fired plants is hard. It makes electricity prices more volatile. And it is having a devastating effect on profits.

Under the old system, electricity prices spiked during peak hours (the middle of the day and early evening), falling at night as demand ebbed. Companies made all their money during peak periods. But the middle of the day is when solar generation is strongest. Thanks to grid priority, solar



grabs a big chunk of that peak demand and has competed away the price spike. In Germany in 2008, according to the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems, peak-hour prices were €14 per Mwh above baseload prices. In the first six months of 2013, the premium was €3. So not only have average electricity prices fallen by half since 2008, but the peak premium has also fallen by almost four-fifths. No wonder utilities are in such a mess.

It will get worse. The combination of European demand and Chinese investment has slashed the cost of solar panels by about two-thirds since 2006 (see chart 3 on next page). In Germany, the cost of generating a megawatt hour of electricity with solar panels has fallen to €150, above wholesale prices but below the fixed price that renewables receive and below residential prices. This means solar generation may rise even if Germany's new government cuts subsidies to renewables. Their challenge to the old utilities will increase.

Moreover, in the past few years utilities have been hedging, selling two-thirds of their power one to three years ahead (ie, they are receiving 2010 prices for energy delivered today). This has insulated them from the full impact of recent price falls. Those contracts expire in 2014-15. As the chief executive of E.ON said recently, "For 2013 and 2014, no recovery [is] in sight,"

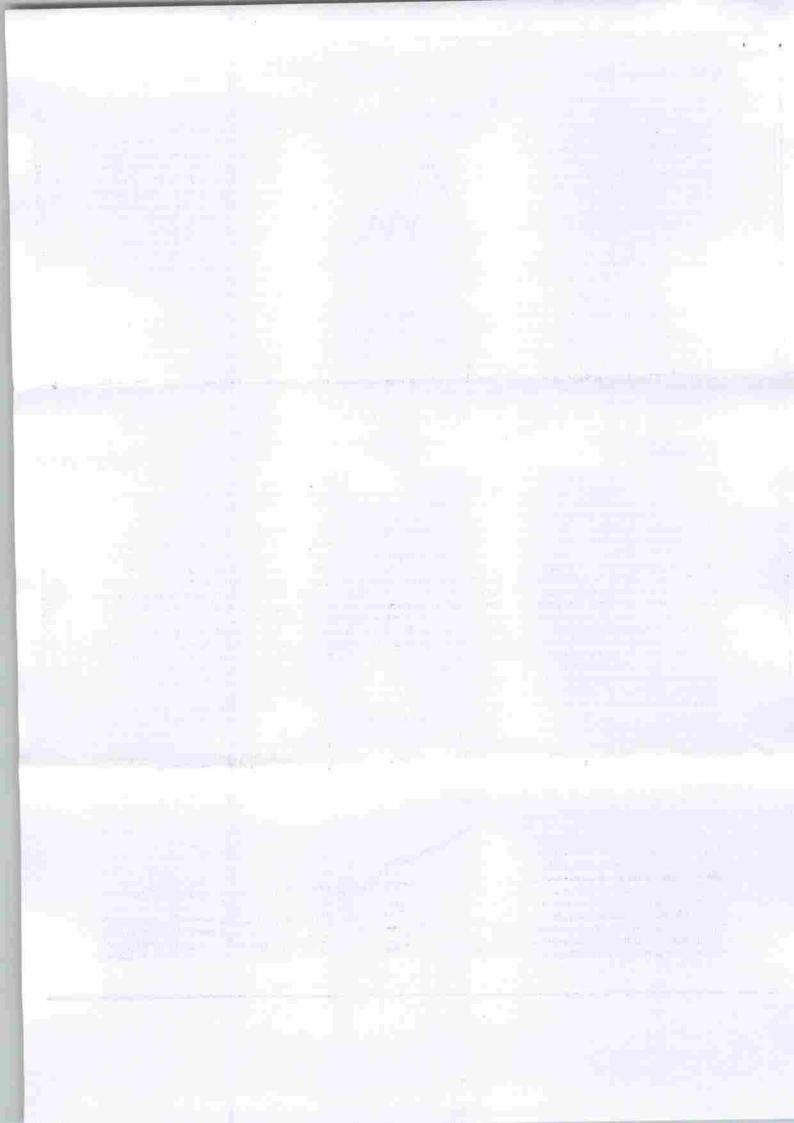
Wood, wind section

Utilities are not powerless in the face of these problems, and they are not all affected equally. The big six British utilities, for example, have been sheltered by their long-term electricity-price agreement with the regulator, though their profit margins remain thin.

Some utilities have got into the renewables business themselves. Drax, which used to be Britain's largest coal-fired power station, is being converted to run on wood pellets. Other utilities are big investors in offshore wind power.

But by and large utilities have been slow to invest, especially in solar. Utilities own only 7% of renewables capacity in Germany, for example. The problem is that solar energy is so different from what they are used to. The old-fashioned utility has a big expensive power plant with, say, 1-15GW of capacity. The plant sits in the middle of a radiating web of wires down which the firm distributes power. Solar power is different. Photovoltaic panels are cheap, tiny (a medium-sized array may have a capacity of just 10MW) and arranged in a net, not as a hub with spokes.

Utilities may eventually get more serious about renewable energy, but at the moment change is slow. Instead, utilities are responding to their woes by shifting out of power generation and into "downstream" activities, such as trading and offering customers advice on energy use. In the past >>



Few months Vattenfall, Sweden's biggest utility, has written off 6% of its assets and three German firms, E.ON. RWE and ENBW, have announced capacity cuts of over15GW. ENBW has gone furthest in outlining what the future might look like. It says its earnings from electricity generation will fall by 80% in 2012-20, offset by higher earnings from energy services and renewables. "We have to rethink what is our role, and our place in the energy sector," says its boss, Frank Mastiaux.

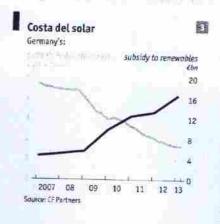
Clean break

For the companies, wrenching change and plunging share prices are obviously worrying. But should anyone else care? As Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute, an American think-tank, points out, Germany has built a low-carbon energy business to the point where new solar power needs few subsidies; where wholesale energy prices are falling and threats to the reliability of the grid have not materialised. What's the problem?

There are several answers. First, utilities have suffered vast losses in asset valuation. Their market capitalisation has fallen over €500 billion in five years. That is more than European bank shares lost in the same period. These losses matter in their own right. For pension funds and other investors, they represent lost capital and lower future earnings. For employees, they translate into lower wages and lost jobs. The losses-many of which predate the boom in renewable energy-have come on top of the huge sums Europeans have also spent on climate-change policies. Subsidies for renewable energy are running at €16 billion a year in Germany (and rising); the cumulative cost is around €60 billion.

Next, utilities have lost their investment role. Once they were steady, reliable and inflation-resistant, the US Treasuries of the equity markets. Pension funds need such assets to balance their long-term liabilities. But utilities no longer play this role, as evinced not just by collapsing share prices but by dividend policies. Until 2008 the yields of RWE and E.ON tracked German ten-year bonds. Since then, they have soared to around 10%, while government-bond yields have stayed flat. Renewables are not the only risky energy investment.

Most important, the decline in utilities' fortunes raises disturbing questions about the future of Europe's electricity system. To simplify: European countries are slowly piecing together a system in which there will be more low-carbon and intermittent energy sources; more energy suppliers; more modern power stations (replacing coal and nuclear plants); more and better storage; and more energy traded across borders. All this will be held together by "smart grids", which tell consumers how much power they are using, shut off appliances when not needed and manage de-



mand more efficiently.

In such a world, the old-fashioned utilities play two vital roles. They will be the electricity generators of last resort, ensuring the lights stay on when wind and solar generators run out of puff. And they will be providers of investment to help build the grand new grid. It is not clear that utilities are in good enough shape to do either of these things.

So far, it is true, they have managed to provide backup capacity and the grid has not failed, even in solar- and wind-mad Germany. In fact, the German grid is more reliable than most (countries run reliability indices: Germany has one of the highest scores in Europe). Greens therefore dismiss worries that renewables will undermine grid reliability, pointing out that, as wind and solar plants spread over the continent, there will be enough wind or sun somewhere to run some of them, at least during the day.

Maybe. But as the price swings in Germany show, it is getting harder to maintain grid stability. Utilities are not rewarded for offsetting the variable nature of wind and solar power. Instead, they are shifting out of electricity generation. And this is happening at a time when renewable energy supplies, on average, 22% of Germany's electricity demand. No one really knows what will happen when renewables reach 35% of the market, as government policy requires in 2020, let alone if they reach the national target of 80% in 2050. Almost everyone acknowledges that as the share

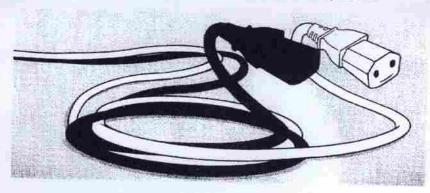
of renewable energy rises, regulation of the grid will have to change.

The role of utilities as investors is also being threatened. The sums required to upgrade the grid are huge, as much as €1 trillion in Europe by 2020. Companies worth €500 billion cannot finance anything like that amount. Instead, they are cutting capital spending. That of RWE (for example) has fallen from €6.4 billion to €5 billion since 2011, and most analysts expect it to fall to €2.6 billion by 2015. Of that, €1.6 billion will go on maintaining existing plants, leaving just €1 billion for development spending—half of present levels. In their current state, utilities cannot finance Europe's hoped-for clean-energy system.

And that has implications for the future. To make up for lack of investment by utilities, governments will have to persuade others to step in, such as pension funds or sovereign-wealth funds. But these entities have always invested in energy indirectly, by holding stakes in utilities, not directly. And for a reason: they dislike the political risks of owning projects in which governments play a role, either through planning or price-setting. In some countries there are also laws against owning assets both upstream (generators) and down (distribution).

Over the past 30 years European governments have been trying to deregulate energy markets, privatising state-owned companies and splitting electricity generation from transmission and distribution. The aims were to increase competition, boost efficiency and cut prices.

Those goals are now harder to achieve. Renewable energy has grabbed a growing share of the market, pushed wholesale prices down and succeeded in its goal of driving down the price of new technologies. But the subsidy cost also has been large, the environmental gains non-existent so far and the damage done to today's utilities much greater than expected. Europe in general and Germany in particular see themselves as pioneers of low-carbon energy. If they are genuinely to be so, they will need to design a much better electricity system that rewards low-carbon energy without reducing reliability and imposing undue and unecessary costs.







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

21 October 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about the construction of Hinkley Point C nuclear power station.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840



Dear Mr Lilley,

One could not make it up. A foreign government-owned power company financed by another foreign government, Communist which has the intention of propagating World Communism and using capitalism as its weapon, are given the contract by our government to build at least one new nuclear power station. The electricity from which will cost us at least double our existing charge. Or possibly not, the way electricity and gas prices are rising without any control by the Government. npower's 11% being the latest that the Government is powerless to stop. Wringing of hands and market forces.......

Why is it ok for foreign governments or foreign companies to own our power generation, railways, buses, and much else which Thatcher sold off, cheaply, yet an anathema for Britain to own them?

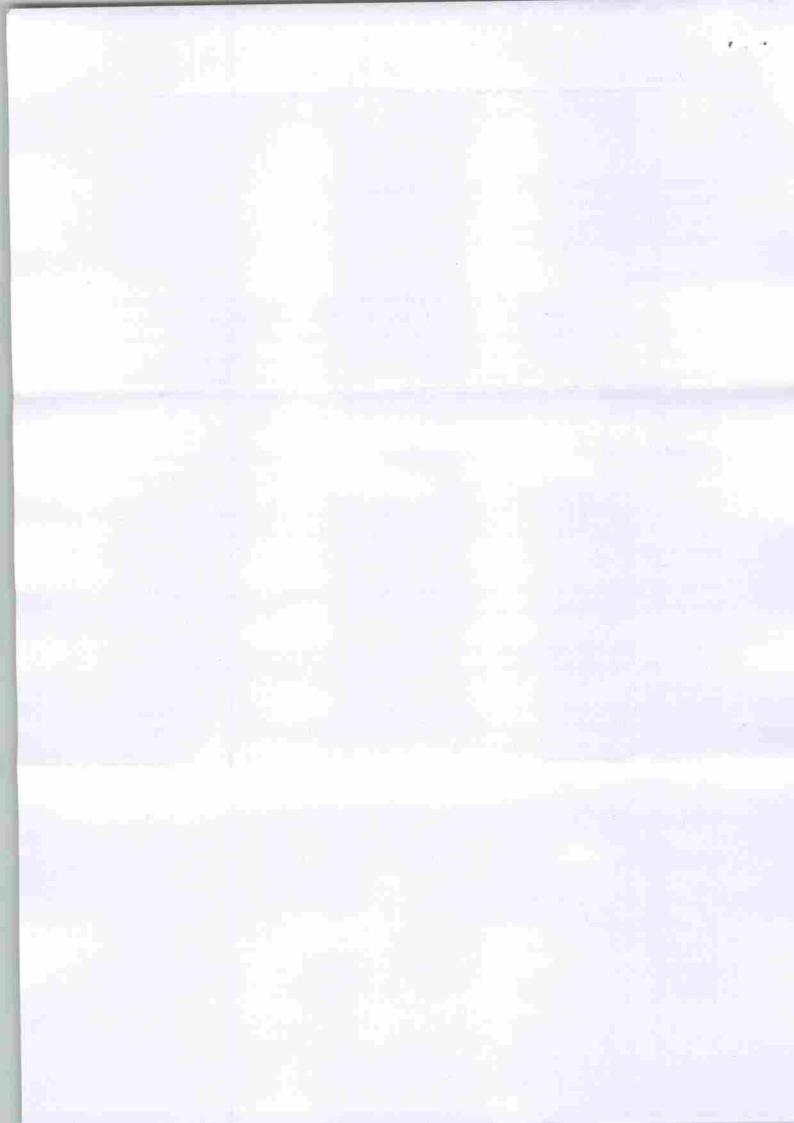
To mis-quote Ali G: "Is it coz we iz broke?" Or is it because thanks to an appalling education system in Britain for the past 30 years, we do not have the in-house expertise to build nuclear power stations?

Pensioners will soon, if not now, choose between heating or lighting. A group for whom Mr Hunt shed many crocodile tears last week. Oh how I laughed.

I appreciate that unless the Hinckley unit is built there will not be enough capacity in the UK to run HS2. Which is probably the real reason for the contract. We will pay dearly for these follies in the long run.

The latter will benefit no town or city along its route. Only those at each end. So we will pay for the wealthy to be wafted at high speed between office and home, which they can afford to heat and light, when many Britons cannot.

It would not make a good plot for the Mann Booker Prize. Too fantastic.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

18 October 2013

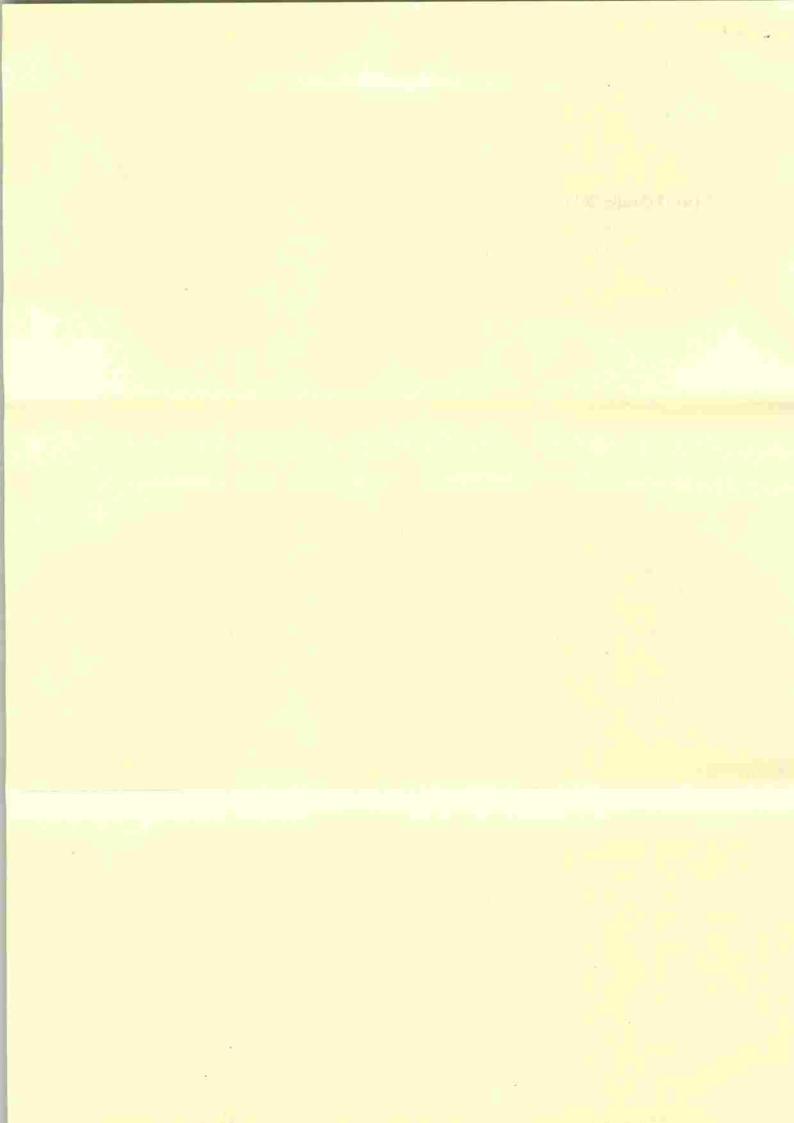
Dear Ed

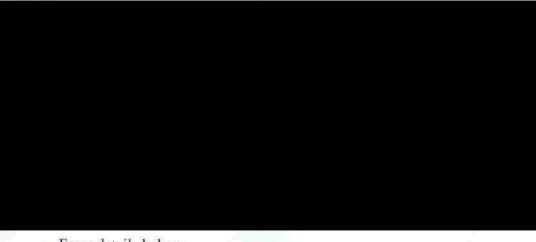
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about government advice to consumers to switch energy suppliers.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840





Form details below:

Comments: Would the Government please take on board that it is very bad advice to encourage Energy Customers to SWITCH suppliers when clearly all the big 6 are in the process of hiking prices one after the other.

The Prime Minister today (17/10) should know better. In any case, customers know this which is why there is an obvious reluctance to take this advice.

Mr Cameron MUST DO SOMETHING tangible about energy prices before the election or face serious loss of support





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons

London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Ed Davey MP Secretary of State Department for Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

7 November 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from about the need to enhance OFGEM's powers to enable it to stop increases in the cost of energy prices by the Big 6 Energy Companies.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points he has raised.

Yours sincerely

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Rt Hon Peter Lilley, MP, PC (Hitchen & Harpenden) House of Commons, London SW1A OAA

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Dear Mr Lilley,

Straightaway to thank you for your letter dated 30 October and indeed for the speed and aptness of your reply to my earlier letter dated 27 October.

Clearly you have effective avenues of communication with the chairman of the Energy & Climate Change Select Committee and are using these on behalf of energy consumers.

The key element - the rest is essentially chasing shadows - in the present enormous fracas is an ineffective offgem. What I mean by ineffective is offgem's present powerlessness (unlike offwat) to block proposed retail price increases (esp if above inflation).

With its present effete powers offgem is frankly a laughing stock but at the same time a friend and even in effect a collusive associate of the big 6 - and by extension an affront (as the unchallenged prices of the big six witness) to the reasonable interests of consumers. Who else is there to stand up for the interests of consumers?

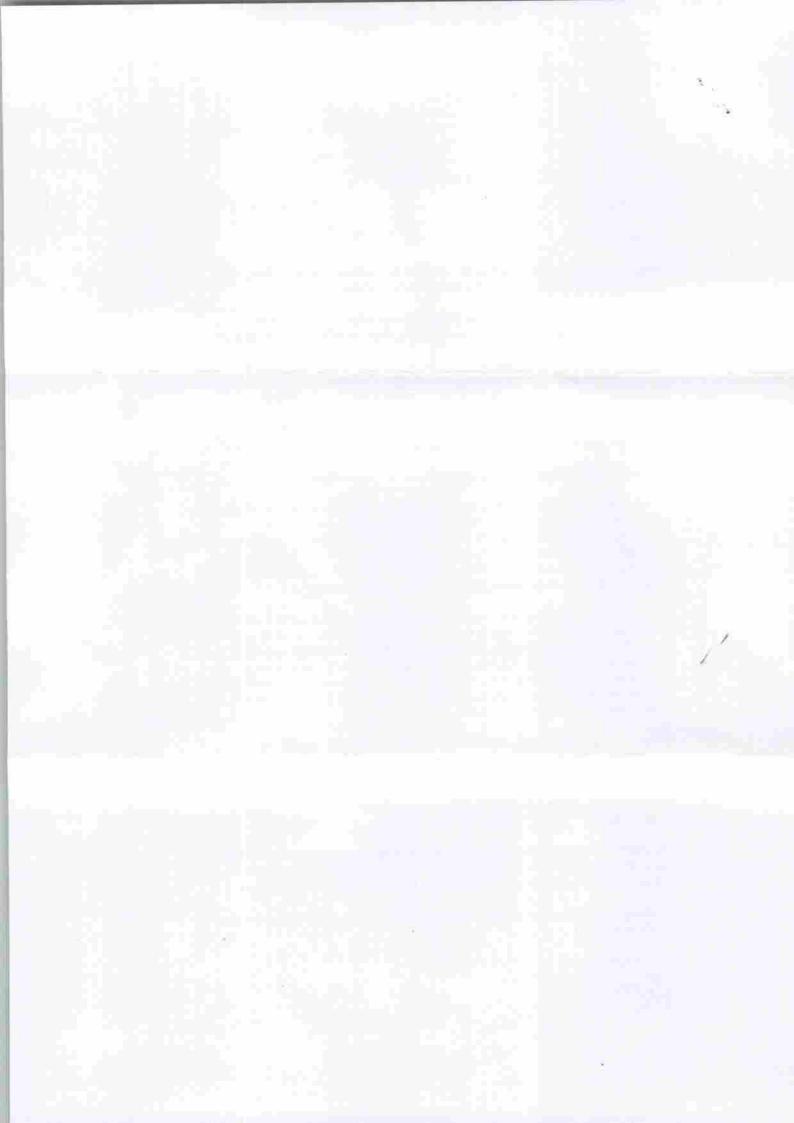
If I am right in my analysis what is now desperately required is a simple one clause bill to be put immediately through both Houses giving offgem this power. No fuss, no delay, just do it. This will (1) be eye catching with enormous political cudos and benefit to the beleaguered Prime Minister who is now suffering enormous collateral political damage and (2) is most unlikely to meet with Labour opposition (unless they do a ridiculous double sommersault) in either Chamber of Parliament

You are a fast worker and could prepare a 1st draft of the bill after a couple of hours research by your staff into the present remit of offgem and transmit your draft to Mr Davey for his immediate attention and action including liaison with the chief whip to secure early Commons and Lords time. Indeed no reason why you shouldn't speak to the chief whip yourself about this and gain his early support and establish the necessary consensus to get the thing off the ground. Rapid footwork is the key to success here for time is of the essence.

Clever, cheap and populist Mr Milliband has got to be decisively wrong footed in this matter if the Tories are to avoid further haemorrhaging of voter support and which, on top of the stupid, crass, first order political misjudgement (top rate of tax) of the 2012 budget, can now easily all combine to lead to electoral defeat - the voters have unshakeable memories and what they most hate is delay and procrastination by their leaders.

I'm afraid Mr Cameron good man he is often gives voters the clear impression of being like a rabbit transfixed into inaction by searchlights (except curiously enough in foreign affairs - eg Libya). He needs to wake up fast as far as home affairs are concerned.

I can see no other way - leave alone effective way - of stopping Mr Milliband than the above proposal





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

15 November 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about investment in renewable energy.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

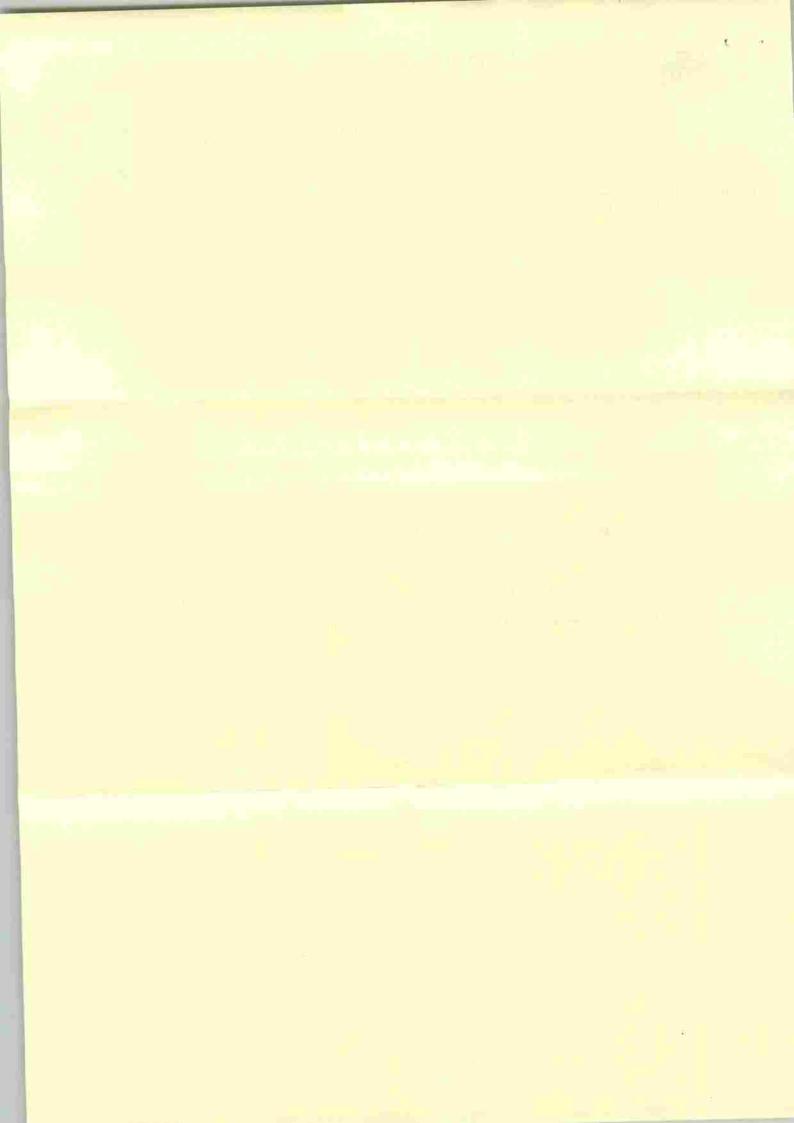
Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

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Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

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Research by the Renewable Energy Association and Innovas shows that the UI industry supports 110,000 jobs across supply chain, and could support 400,000 These jobs are dependent on investor confidence in the UK renewable energy slong term policy regime.	C's £12.5 billion renewables by 2020. sector created by a consistent
The Prime Minister's announcement of a review of 'green levies' is already confidence in the renewable energy sector and putting jobs in your constitution.	damaging investor
Globally, figures from Bloomberg show that investment in renewable energy now and will constitute 70% of energy investment to 2030. China is investing \$284 bit	outstrips that in fossil fuels
years. For the UK to rule itself out of this market by undermining the policy frame damaging to the south west's economy.	work, would be hugely
The renewable energy sector is committed to driving down costs as it develops. I around 3%, of the average household bill goes on investing in renewable energy UK to generate 15.5% of its electricity from renewables in the second quarter of 2 on gas supplies from uncertain parts of the world.	DECC figures show that £37, That investment enabled the 2013, making us less reliant
In comparison a new report from the Overseas Development Institute shows sub- are £2.6 billion a year - about £100 per household - and we spend £2.3 billion on about £87 per household.	sidies for fossil fuels in the UK cleaning up nuclear waste –
urge you to write to the Prime Minister, asking him to make clear the current review will not affect support to	
ours sincerely,	or renewable energy.



Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

29 November 2013

Dear Ed

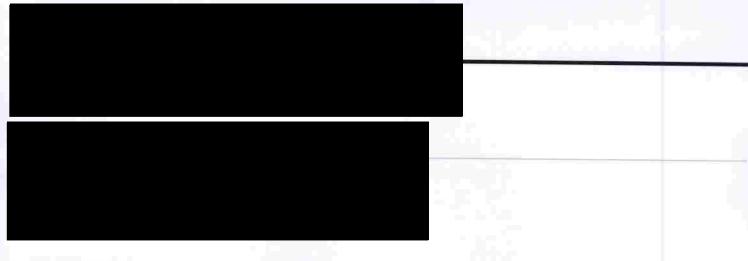
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about energy efficiency measures and the Energy Companies Obligation.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840





Dear Mr Lilley,

In the Autumn statement the Coalition Government must continue to support energy efficiency measures and the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO). ECO is good for Britain and will help as part of the solution to -

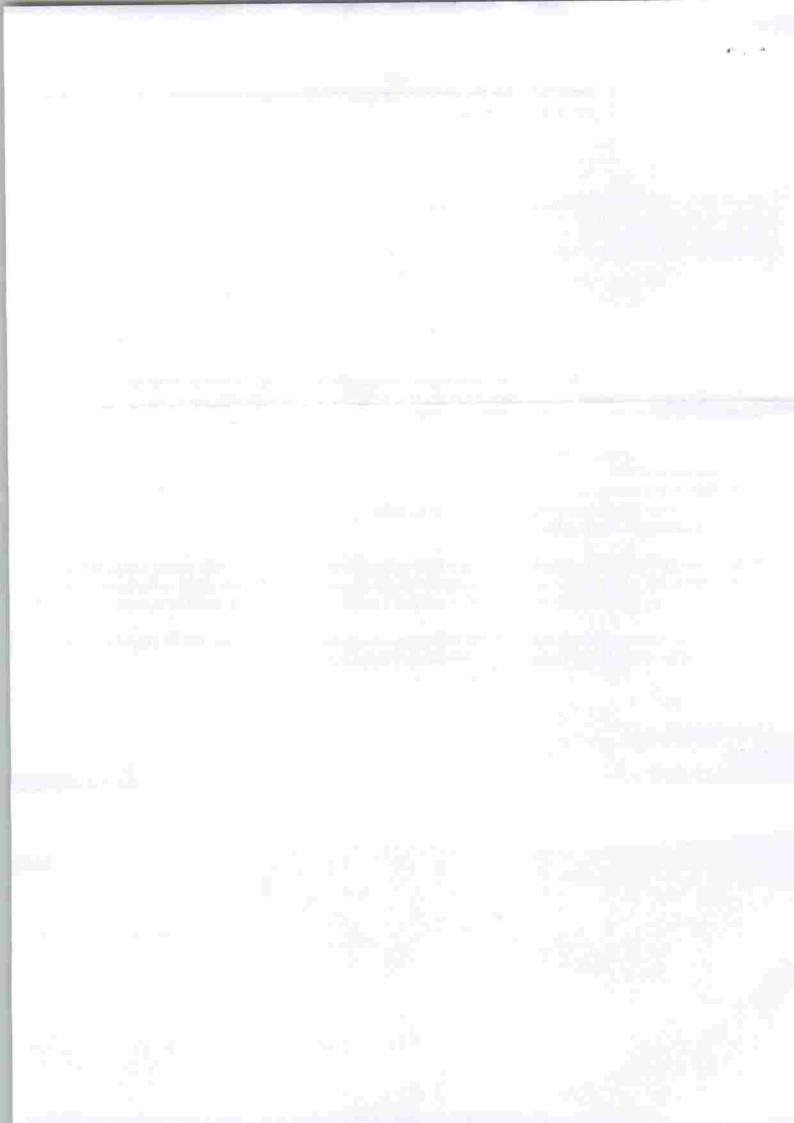
- address fuel poverty and keep the most vulnerable homes warm
- reduce fuel bills
- have more energy efficient homes
- · reduce energy demand and so help energy security
- maintain and create jobs

Without the grants in place to unlock energy efficiency measures, the Coalition will simply fail to deliver on its promise for a low carbon and environment friendly economy, and the bills of those that can least afford to increase will continue to rise. ECO is not just a green obligation, it's a social obligation.

The Coalition Government must keep to the commitments set out earlier this year for ECO

Your sincerely,







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA





Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

23 December 2013

Dear Ed

Further to previous correspondence, I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from about Ofgem.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the additional points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



Rt Hon Peter Lilley, MP House of Commons, London SW1A OAA

17 December 2013

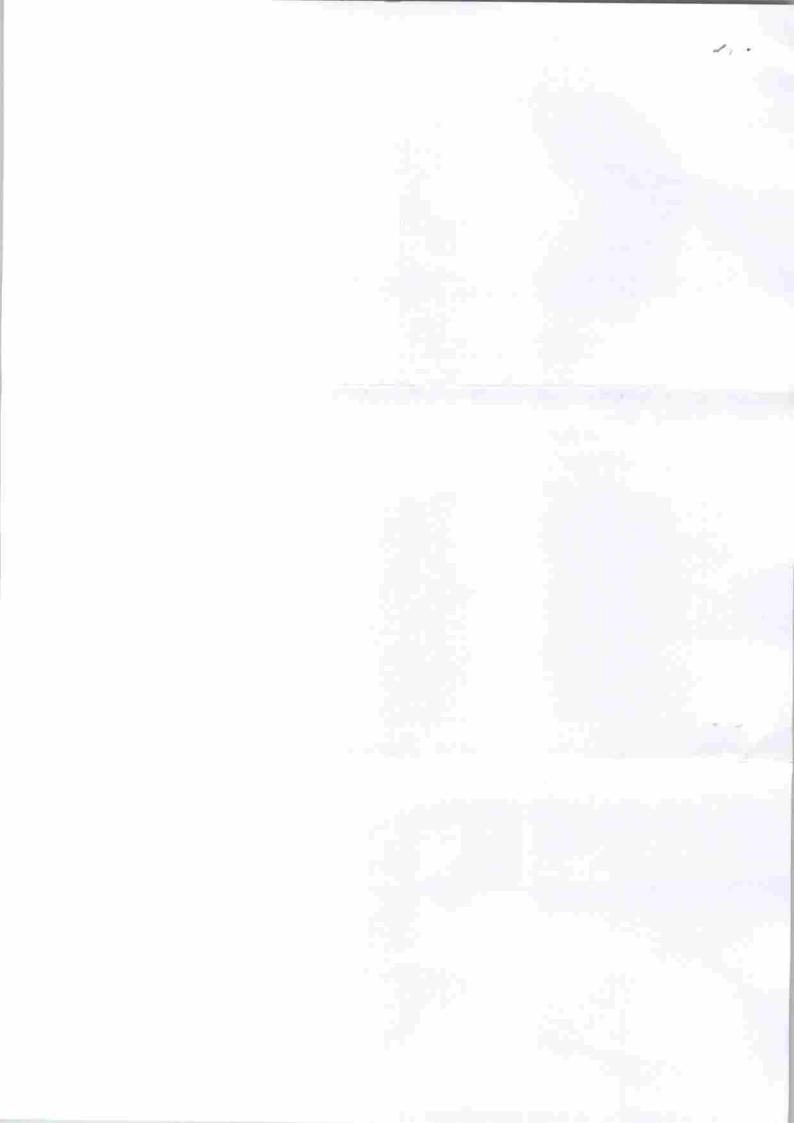
Dear Mr Lilley,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 December enclosing a copy letter dated 30 November from our excellent Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, Mr Ed Davey.

However I'm afraid that his letter although a comprehensive statement said absolutely nothing about my concern ie giving offgem powers to stop proposals from the 'big 6' for retail price increases esp when these are above the prevailing inflation rates.

Offwat has the power. Why not offgem? I would like Mr Davey in his further reply now to focus exclusively upon this specific point.

Best Seasonal Wishes - and to Mr Davey





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

08 January 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about his energy supplier, Eon, increasing his direct debit.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Religion to the

The At Hon Reter Lilley MP Honces of Parliament, Lordon.

Dear M. Lilley,

Our to Government intervention with the Power Companies I thought that this night into est you whilst I escaped to uin my battle with For to find out fuch letters so they can make use of the money for their our purposes is absolutely wrong when you think of the number of customers who may have received similar letters demanding feubetastive increases in payments p.m. Please find endered copies of the invoices from For and the letter I have winter.



Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

07 January 2014

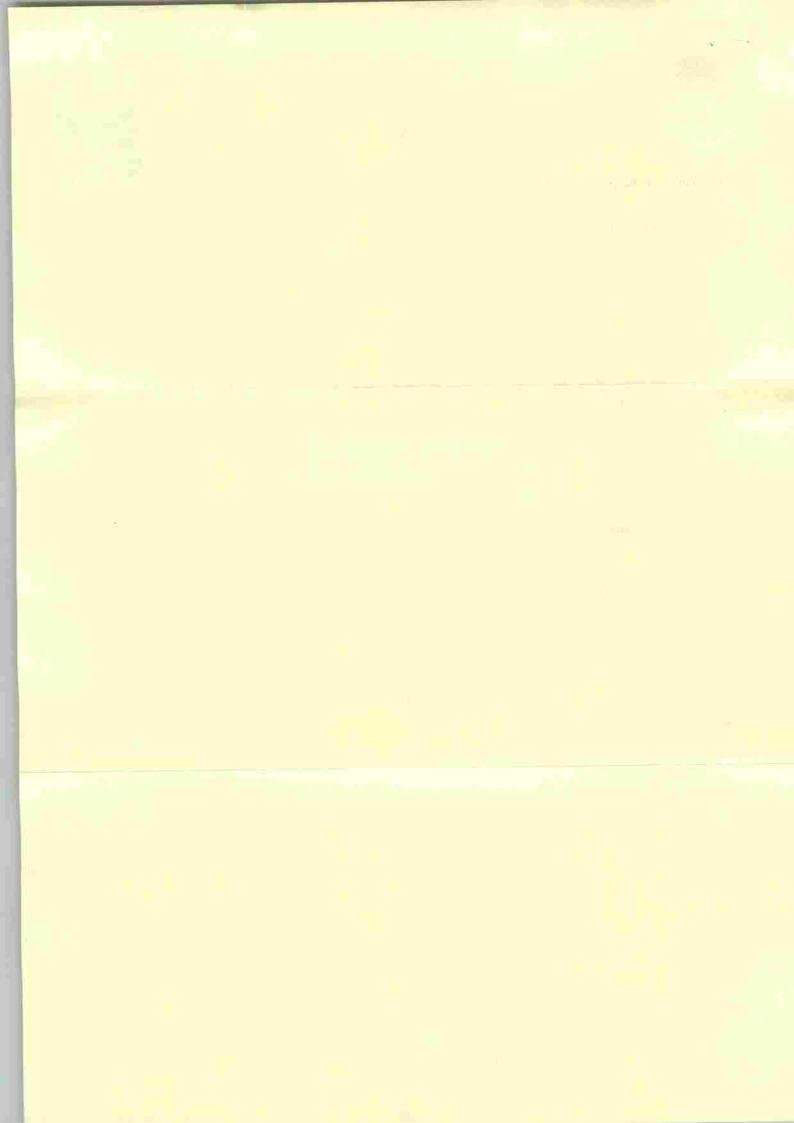
Dear Ed

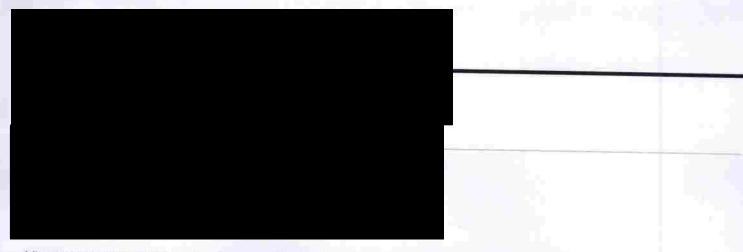
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine who is concerned that he will not benefit from the reduction in the green levy as he is on a fixed rate contract with his energy supplier, EDF.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840





Like most customers these days I am on a fixed rate and my supplier is EDF. The government made a great show about reducing everyones bill

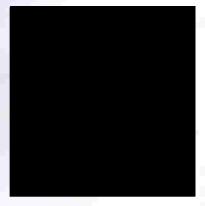
by approximately £50 due to reductions in the green levy. However, EDF have told me that as I am on a fixed rate then the reduction will not apply to me.

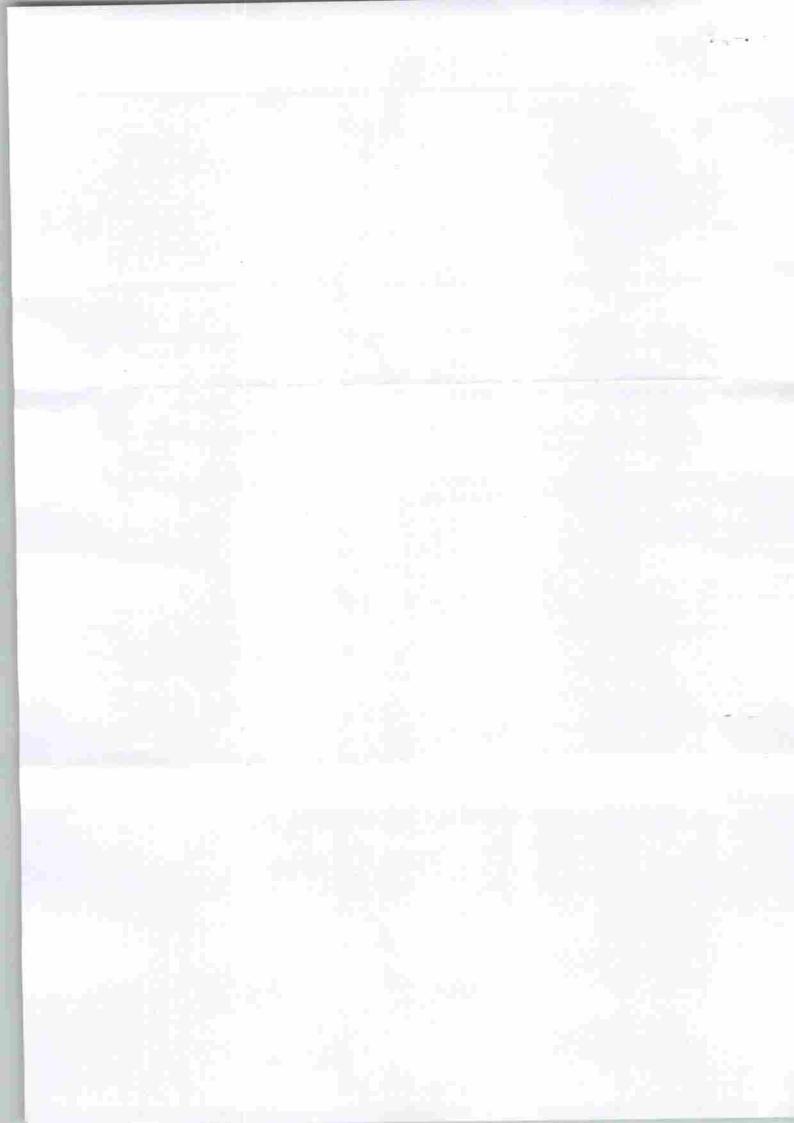
This begs some questions. If the green levy is in fact a levy and EDF will not have to pay as much to the government but still charging me then they will be

increasing their profits at my expense or will the government still insist on the original green levy amount in my case. If I am getting no reduction then this would suggest

that the governments great show about energy prices was just yet another pr exercise and continues the trend of policticians promising something and then failing to deliver.

Can you please comment?







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

08 January 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about comparative fixed rate energy tariffs.

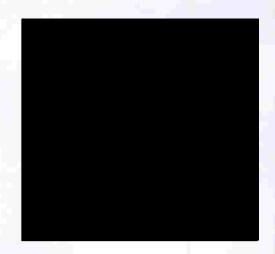
I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk Record of the Hand

and the same of

Parliamentary Office, Rt. Hon Peter Lilley MP, House of Commons, London, SW1 0AA



ENERGY TARIFFS - COMPARITIVE FIXED RATES

Dear Mr. Lilley,

I am a customer of Scottish Power and recently received an email regarding the end of my current fixed rate deal on 31st January 2014 and the new offer until February, 2015.

I am enclosing a copy of the comparative tariff table which they sent which on the surface was good, but unfortunately rather confusing as it did not compare like with like.

I rang Scottish Power and asked a member of their Customer Service Team to explain. I was told the new government guide lines had changed and the new rates had to include a daily charge, which was not shown before. I asked for a further explanation so I could compare the deals exactly and they were unable to clarify further. I then used comparative web sites to compare deals on offer for the new fixed period which is fairly straightforward. However the issue of comparing with my previous deal is unhelpful.

I thought you might be interested to see this example and whilst an improvement, not a clear statement of what the tariffs were historically and in the future, by comparing like with like. Surely that could have been added to provide customers with a better understanding.

Yours sincerely,





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

21 January 2014

Dear Ed

I wrote to you on 18th October, 2013 enclosing a copy of an email I received from the above constituent of mine about government advice go consumers to switch energy suppliers.

I have not received a reply as yet and would be grateful if you could let me have a response to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk and the large and the

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Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

18 October 2013

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about government advice to consumers to switch energy suppliers.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely



Thank you for contacting Peter Lilley. Mr Lilley understands your concerns on this matter and will be in touch as soon

Thank you for contacting Peter Lilley. Mr Lilley understands your concerns on this matter and will be in touch as soon as he receives a reply to your enquiry.

Regards

Comments: Would the Government please take on board that it is very bad advice to encourage Energy Customers to SWITCH suppliers when clearly all the big 6 are in the process of hiking prices one after the other.

The Prime Minister today (17/10) should know better. In any case, customers know this which is why there is an obvious reluctance to take this advice.

Mr Cameron MUST DO SOMETHING tangible about energy prices before the election or face serious loss of support





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

05 February 2014

Dear Ed

I have received a number of emails from constituents of mine in support of Cold Homes Week calling for the use of money the government gets from carbon taxes to make homes more highly energy efficient.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a response on this issue.

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Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk CONTRACTOR OF BUILDING

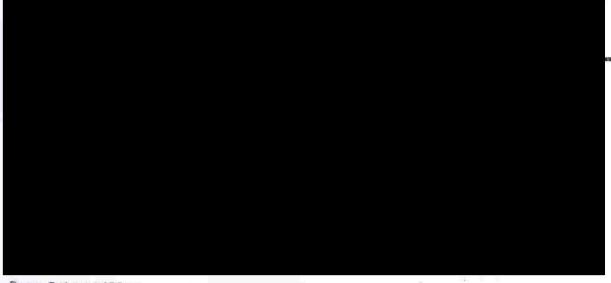
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Dear Peter Lilley

Last winter over 31,000 people died of the cold. Millions of others have to make the desperate choice between heating and eating due to high energy bills.

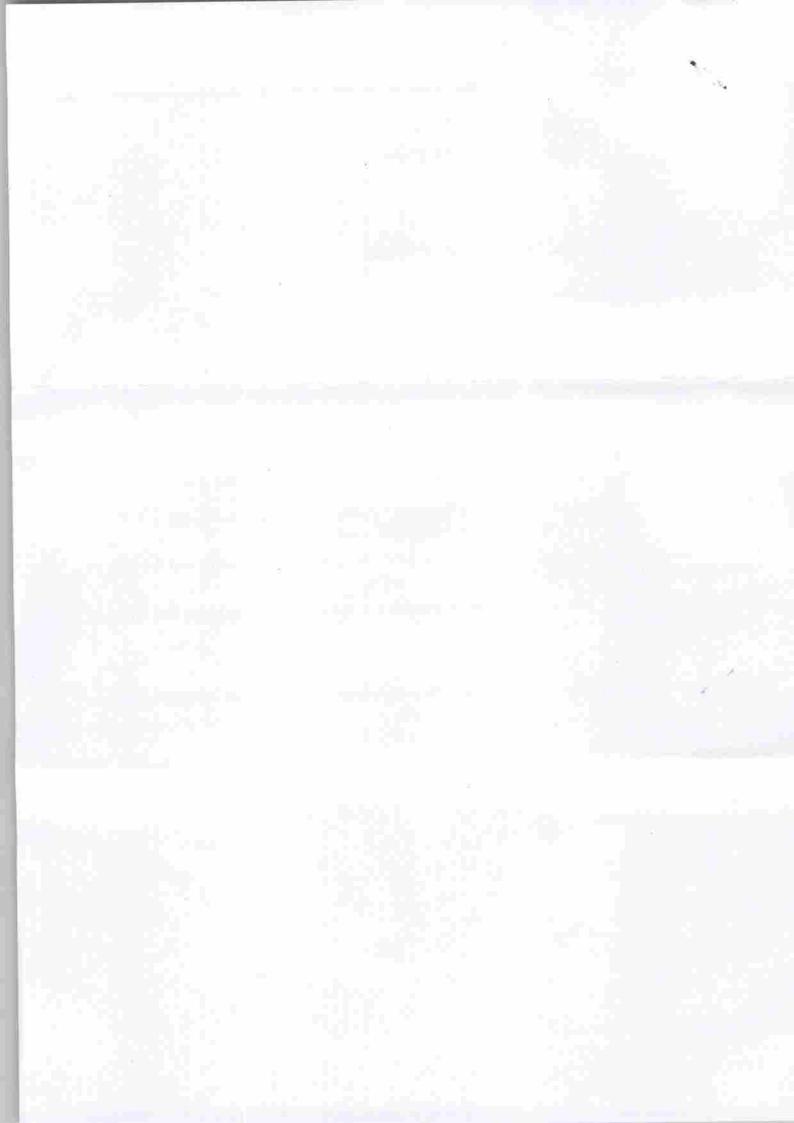
I support Cold Homes Week and the Energy Bill Revolution campaign calling on the Government to use the money it gets from carbon taxes to make our homes highly energy efficient. This is the only permanent solution to high energy bills and fuel poverty.

Please support the campaign by emailing MPSupporters@energybillrevolution.org and find out more about the campaign at www.energybillrevolution.org.

There is enough carbon tax to bring 9 out of 10 homes out of fuel poverty and in time to help super-insulate every UK home.

Please let me know if you will join me in supporting this vital campaign to end the cold homes crisis once and for all.

You can contact me by email (preferably - to save resources) or at the following address:





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

05 February 2014

Dear Ed

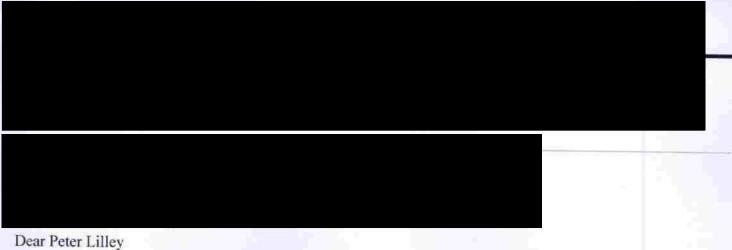
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about fuel poverty.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Last winter over 30,000 people died of the cold. Millions of others have to make the desperate choice between heating and eating due to high energy bills.

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There is enough carbon tax to bring 9 out of 10 homes out of fuel poverty and in time to help super-insulate every UK home.

Please let me know if you will join me in supporting this vital campaign to end the cold homes crisis once and for all.

Thank you in advance







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

21 February 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about climate change.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

William Broken

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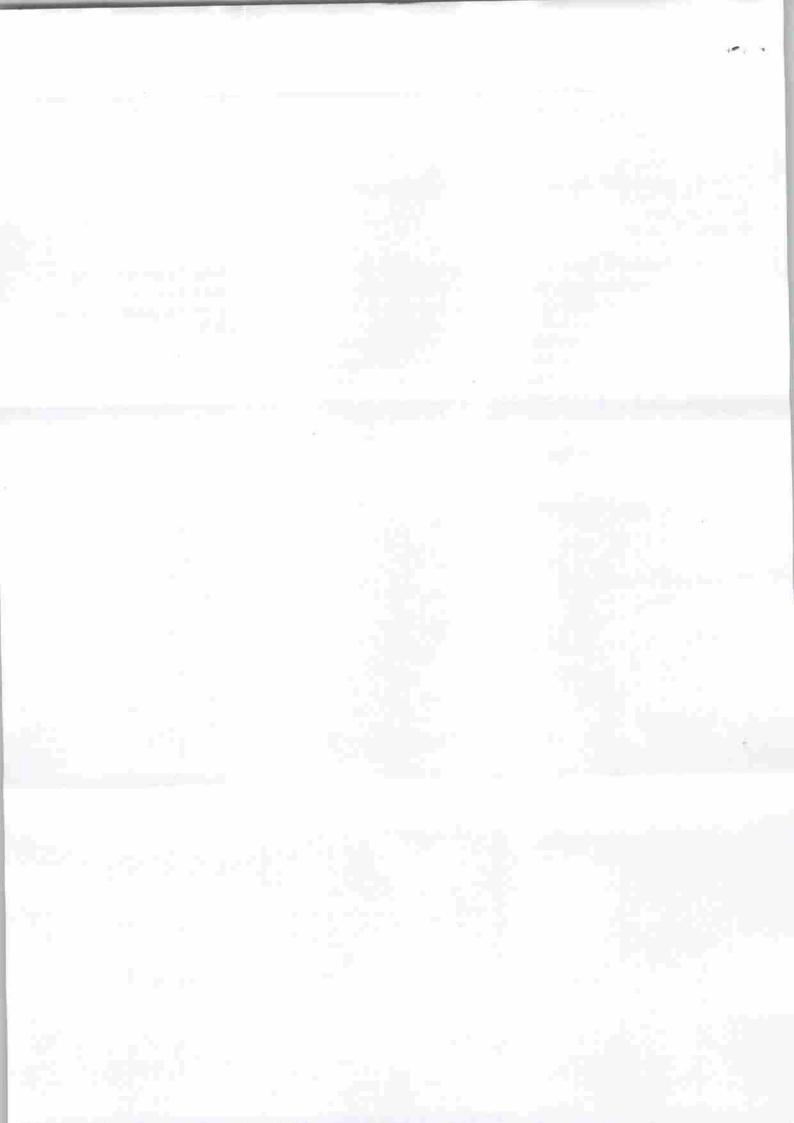
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Dear MP, I think these awful floods are our nation's wake-up call about climate change. Please write to the Prime Minister and pass on my request to him to make sure that we prepare to protect ordinary people in the UK from more and worse floods in future, like the ones we've just seen. But please also ask him to make sure we tackle the root cause, climate change, by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. In particular, please ask him to push his fellow EU leaders for ambitious targets when they meet at their Summit in March, we need a 50% reduction target for greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and a binding renewable energy target alongside it. The EU's targets are very important, partly because the EU is a big slice of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, and also a meaningful EU offer makes action from China and the US more likely. Scientists have been telling us for years that climate change means more extreme weather, and this is the wettest winter for 250 years. The UK must act. I care about climate change because I care about poor communities around the world who are already feeling the impact of it, because of the environment, and because of the damage of flooding here at home. Regards,

This email was sent via Nudge by







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

27 February 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from concerns about the installation of 'de-rated' turbines under the Feed-in-Tariff regime.

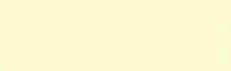
I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points she has raised.

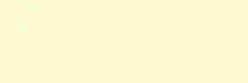
Yours sincerely

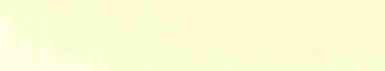
Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



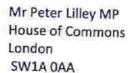














17 February 2014

Meeting request: distortion of the Feed-in-Tariff through de-rating wind turbines

Dear Mr Lilley,

I am writing to you to highlight concerns about the installation of "de-rated" turbines under the current Feed-in-Tariff (FiT) regime. Not only is this leading to unfair and distorted competition, but it is also undermining the rationale for FiT. Given your role as Member of the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee, I would welcome an opportunity to discuss how we can address these concerns.

To encourage uptake of small-scale onshore wind generation, installations with a capacity of less than 5MW are able to operate under the FiT.

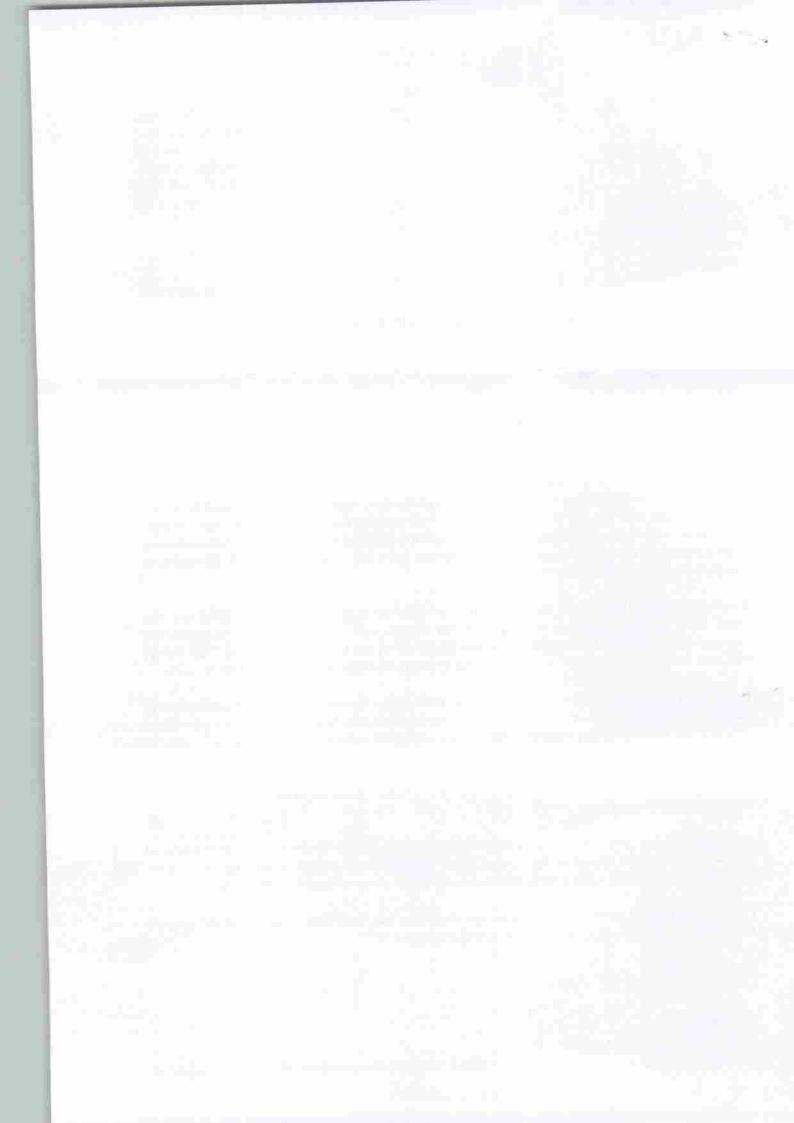
which is a popular FiT band that helps farmers, communities and businesses insulate their energy bills from the rising costs of fossil fuel and raise additional income for their activities.

estimates that around half of turbines currently being installed in this FiT band are "derated" wind turbines. These are turbines of 800 or 900 kW installed with an operating production capacity capped at 500kW. This is done to take advantage of the tariff per kWh in the <100-500kW FiT band, which is almost double compared to the FiT band intended for turbines of their capacity.

The growing number of such installations is concerning, given the purpose of the FiT and in light of the overall FiT budget. The different tariff bands have been set with reference to the specific costs of different sizes of turbines. By allowing turbines to be installed under a FiT-band designed for smaller turbines, communities gets half the electricity for twice the tariff. These oversized turbines also have a much larger visual impact than turbines designed for this band. Lastly, de-rated turbines reach their capped peak capacity much quicker than genuine medium-sized turbines, thus distorting fair competition on the market.

we believe that the FiT could benefit from defining medium wind turbines on the basis of the swept area of the blades of the turbine rather than based on production output. This is used internationally to define small wind turbines and would ensure de-rating was no longer possible.

I would be delighted to meet with you how we could take this issue forward as well as giving you a broader overview of our operations in the United Kingdom.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

10 March 2014

Dear Ed

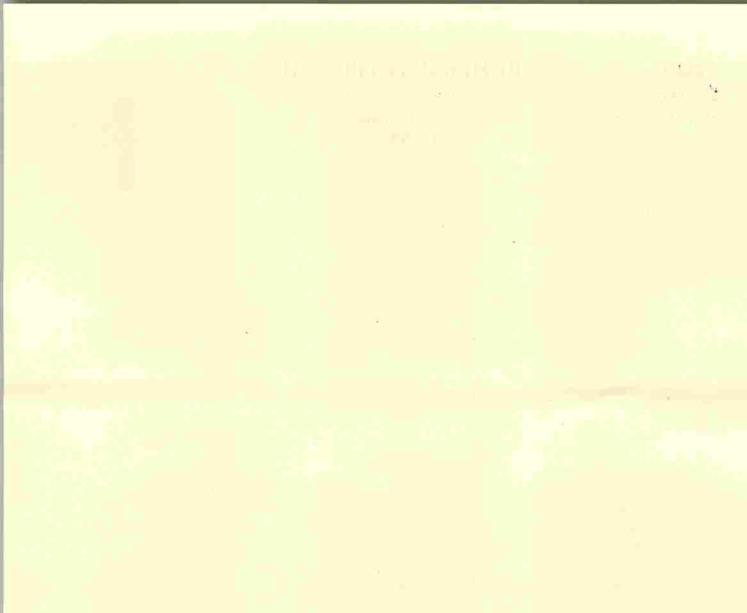
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from about the letter DECC wrote to which was quote in the recent Channel 4 programme, saying 'Cuadrilla is the only operator in the UK so far to use high volume hydraulic fracturing' and how this statement is compatible with the Royal Society statement on this issue. I have highlighted the passage in semail.

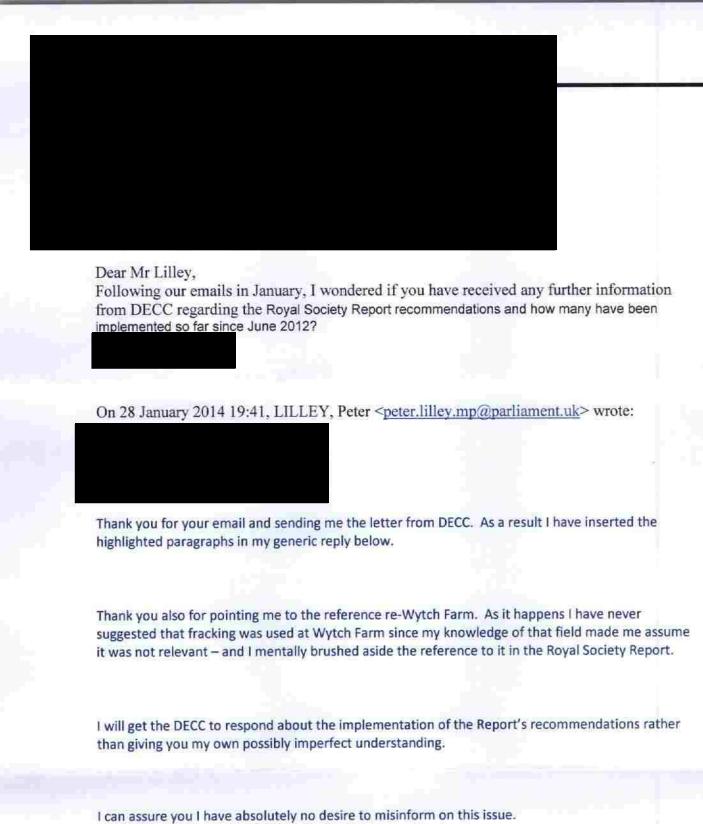
I would be grateful if you could let me have a response.

With many thanks

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

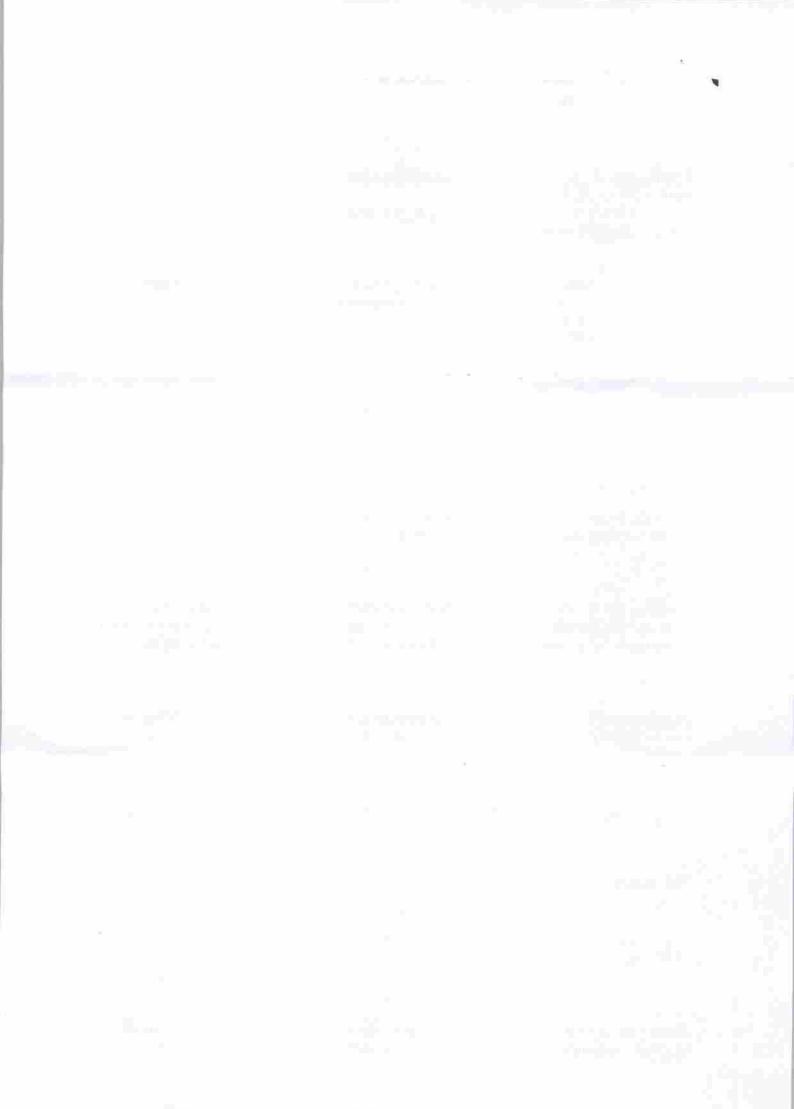




Peter Lilley

Best regards

Thank you for your email about the Channel 4 debate on fracking on Sunday 27th January. This reply responds to those from outside my constituency who contacted me – both



supportive and critical. So I apologise if it covers points you did not raise. I will reply individually to my own constituents.

I respect the sincerity of those who are protesting against plans to use hydraulic fracturing for shale gas even though I disagree with their arguments. It is sad that most of those who disagree with me felt it necessary to impugn my motives and honesty. Resort to personal abuse is usually an indication that the abuser has no solid argument to rely on. I equally deplore the offensive personal remarks about and other protestors which have been posted on various websites.

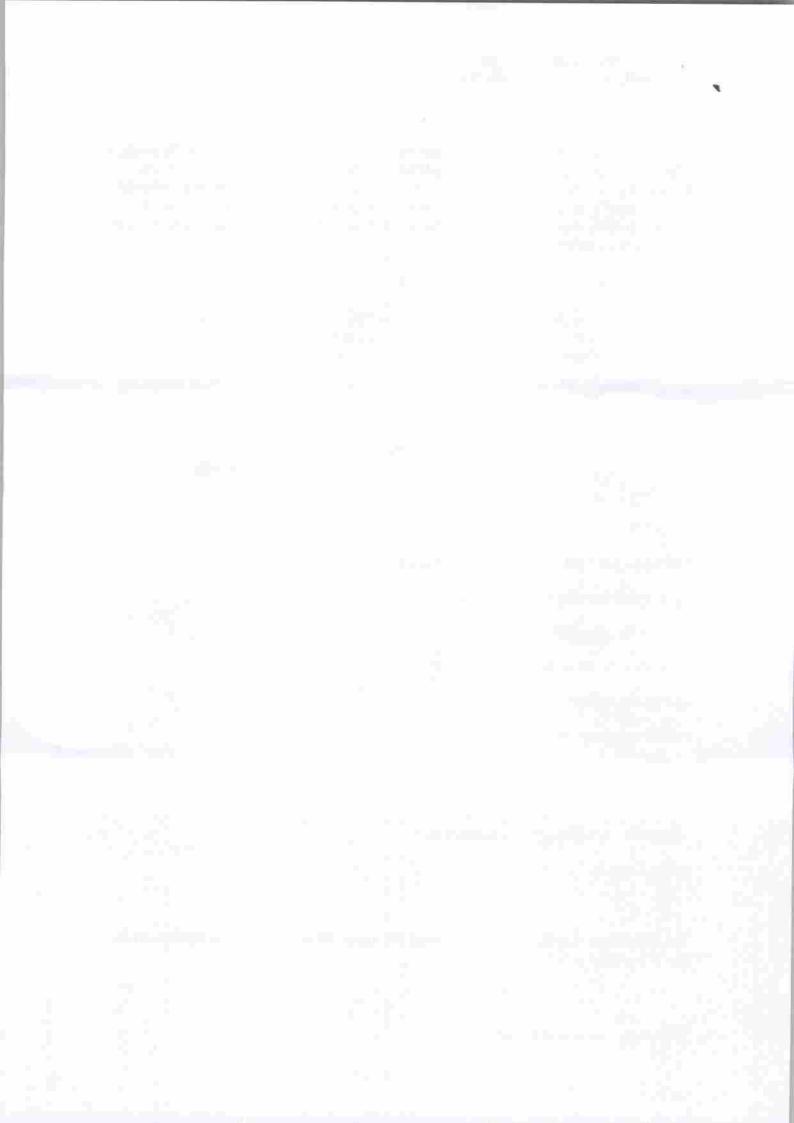
Sadly, I do not stand to receive a penny for supporting fracking in the UK – nor does any person or company with whom I am associated. Tethys Petroleum Limited operates exclusively in Central Asia and, as it happens, is not involved in hydraulic fracking. Details of that could be checked by googling a little.

Although accused me of lying she baulked at accusing the Royal Society and Royal Academy of Engineering of dishonesty. Yet it was them I was quoting. Their report begins:

"The health, safety and environmental risks associated with hydraulic fracturing (often termed 'fracking') as a means to extract shale gas can be managed effectively in the UK as long as operational best practices are implemented and enforced through regulation. Hydraulic fracturing is an established technology that has been used in the oil and gas industries for many decades. The UK has 60 years' experience of regulating onshore and offshore oil and gas industries."

The Report was also the source of my point that about 200 wells have been fracked which said was a lie.

[&]quot;The UK has experience of hydraulic fracturing and



directional drilling for non-shale gas applications.

Over the last 30 years, more than 2,000 wells have been drilled onshore in the UK, approximately 200 (10%) of which have been hydraulically fractured to enhance recovery." See page 17.

Since the broadcast I have seen the DECC letter quoted saying "Cuadrilla is the only operator in the UK so far to use high volume hydraulic fracturing". I have asked DECC how their statement is compatible with the Royal Society statement. They say the question related to high volume hydraulic fracturing — Preese Hall used 10,000 tons of water whereas the previous 200 wells mentioned in the RS/RAE report used far less water — at most 200 tons. Even the larger volumes used at Preese Hall should be no problem. Again the RS/RAE report says:

Estimates indicate

that the amount needed to operate a hydraulically fractured shale gas well for a decade may be equivalent to the amount needed to water a golf course for a month; the amount needed to run a 1,000 MW coal-fired power plant for 12 hours; and the amount lost to leaks in United Utilities' region in north west England every hour.

A number of people linked to web sites claiming that lots of allegations of water contamination have been made but the reason no cases of humans being poisoned by contaminated water have been confirmed by the US authorities, notably the Environmental Protection Agency, is that the Agency had covered them up. That pretty incredible conspiracy theory was disposed of by one respondent on the website, himself an environmental inspector, who explained:

"To suggest that there is some sort of cover up is just laughable. The EPA was not there to determine if gas drilling caused methane migration. That has already been well established. The litigants were screaming that there was all sorts of drilling chemicals in their water. EPA was there to confirm or deny that accusation. They did their tests, there was no drilling chemicals, the water came back as safe to drink. So that's what they reported. Also, shortly after their claims of water contamination by

drilling chemicals were proven false, they settled their lawsuit with the gas company, which they swore they would never do.

If gas drilling is SO bad, there should be plenty of legit issues you can point to in order to make your case. There shouldn't be a need to aggressively distort reality as is the case here."

Even an alarmist Guardian article admitted that "A 2011 Penn State study found that about 40% of water wells tested *prior to gas drilling* failed at least one federal drinking water standard".

A number of people - in almost identical terms - accused me of ignorance and lack of research of this subject. Had they done any research themselves they would have discovered that I have studied the whole issue of global warming in at least as great depth as any MP, being one of the few with a degree in Natural Sciences though my main contribution has been to question the Economics of Climate Change – see the attachment. That may be why, although my views differ from those expressed by most MPs, they chose to vote me onto the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee.

I do hope in future it will be possible to debate these issues from positions of mutual respect and courtesy.

Best regards

Peter Lilley



Dear Mr Lilley.

My name is

4 and the fact that you are still saying over 200 wells have been fracked in the UK. In August this year and with Cuadrilla

I wrote to DECC to get a clear answer on this.

Attached is the letter I received, the letter was referring to.

Please can you retract what you said and get your facts straight?

and it is embarrassing watching you either lie or have so little disregard for fracking in communities you cannot be bothered to research the facts. I am not sure which is worse.

I know that the next step for you will be to start talking about Wytch Farm. I have seen others before you go through the same steps - firstly reference 200 wells a fact which the Royal Society report got wrong, and then start talking about Wytch Farm. I have done the research on Wytch Farm too, so just to save you some effort here it is:

"Dorset County Council Planning Committee - Date of Meeting 06 September 2013

http://www1.dorsetforyou.com/.../PLC%20060913%20REP%204...

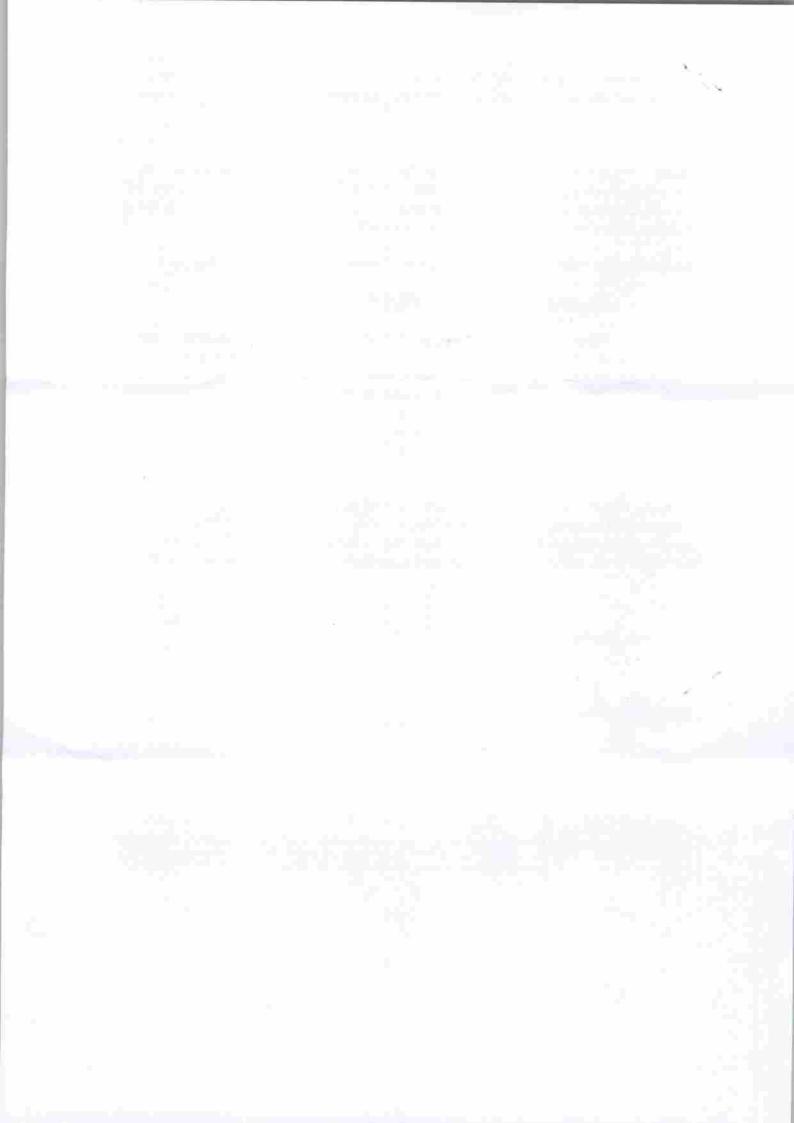
point 7.15.1 Whilst the fracking of shale gas formations has never been undertaken within the oilfields, the existing planning permissions do not restrict the extraction of petroleum to purely conventional means. The ES states that there are no known shale gas or coal bed methane deposits in Perenco's licence blocks nor are there any plans to seek such opportunities. The current planning applications seek no change to the existing situation with the continued production of oil taking place by conventional means only."

So back to the Royal Society Report - you will note that actually what that report said was there were 10 multi-point recommendations, sensible recommendations which should be in place before extraction takes place. Perhaps you can do some research of your own, to find out which if any of these has been achieved since the report was published in June 2012.

I hope that you find this helpful,

UK Parliament Disclaimer:

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Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

31 March 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about climate change.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

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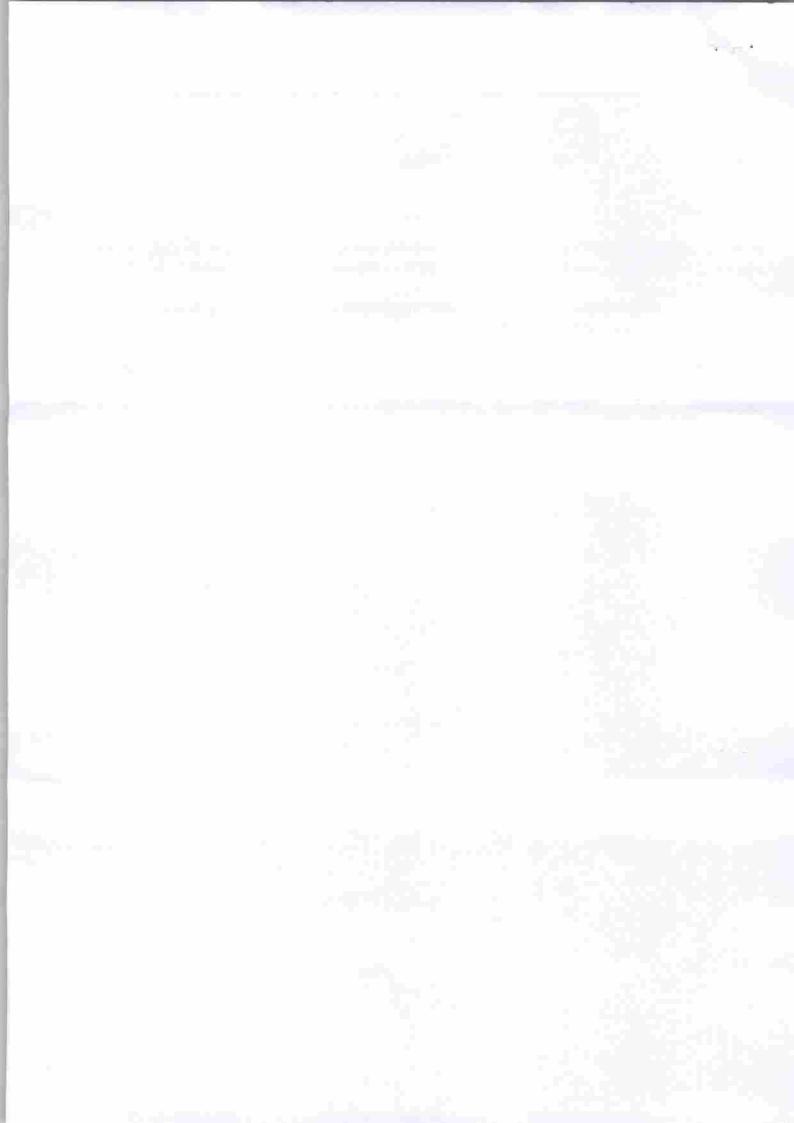


Dear Mr Lilley

In view of the recent UN/IPCC report, will the government be stepping up its efforts to combat, check and adapt to climate change, which appears to be dominantly man-made and part of a global pattern?

I am thinking in terms of preparations for more extreme weather events, e.g. flooding, drought, cold and snow, high winds, more rapid erosion, etc.

Many thanks





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SWIA 2AW

07 April 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about his support for the onshore wind industry.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

1997 A. H. Davier, madel 499



Dear Peter Lilley,

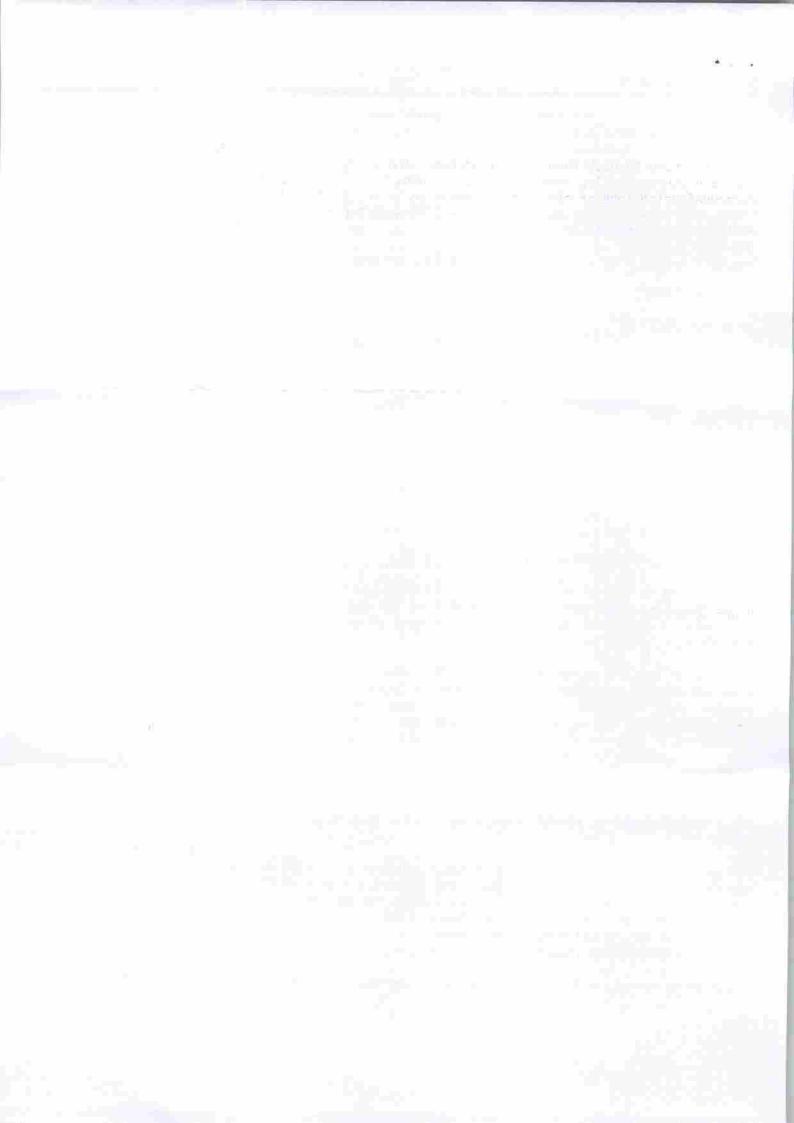
Onshore Wind Industry's contribution to the UK

I am writing as one of your constituents to urge you to contact the Prime Minister, and those involved in writing the manifesto for the next General Election, to warn them of the cost of not supporting the onshore wind industry.

These are an increasing number of professional, technical and highly skilled persons who make a significant contribution to the UK economy and skills base in the UK. The sector is also drawing in increasing research, design and manufacturing into the UK (The most recent announcement being the Siemens plant in Humberside). The thought that a moratorium could be imposed on future development of onshore wind is obviously hugely concerning to me and potentially could halt inward investment into the UK or at worst result in the major wind players exiting from the UK market.

We employ extremely high standards when developing wind farms and work closely with communities at all stages.

I therefore find it difficult to understand how any artificial limits



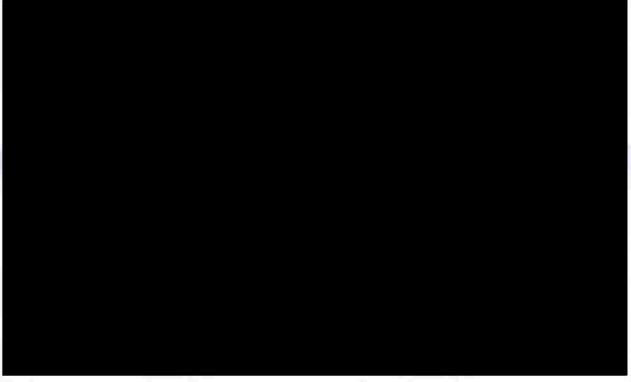
on onshore wind benefit the country as a whole. Recent announcements in the offshore sector have resulted in a number of major players exiting or suspending offshore work, the same must not be allowed to happen for the onshore sector. Onshore wind is the lowest cost low carbon generation that it's possible to develop at scale, cheaper than other renewables and new nuclear. As we have binding decarbonisation targets, if we're going to meet them without onshore wind energy bills will increase unnecessarily, something no one wants. Even if it wasn't for decarbonisation lots of old capacity needs to be replaced, and our imports of coal and gas are at record levels. Reducing the dependance on imported gas and other energy sources is important particularly in light of recent issues with Russia. Onshore wind helps develop that independance.

Whenever onshore wind is criticised it seems to be because politicians think it will attract support from voters. Whilst I recognise that some people don't like onshore wind, the overwhelming majority do – a poll last year by the Mail on Sunday revealed that over 60% of Conservative voters would be happy to have a windfarm in their area, and nearly the same percentage of UKIP voters. This also translates to the ballot box – one third of Conservative voters said they would be more likely to vote for a local candidate who backed wind farms in the area compared to 29% who would be less likely to.

Playing politics with onshore wind leads to great uncertainty for people like me, but also the wider energy industry — on previous occasions when there have been political rows about onshore wind organisations like the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) and the CBI have warned about the dangers of an investment hiatus.

I would be very grateful if you could contact the Prime Minister to appraise him of my concerns, and for a response to my email.

Yours sincerely,





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

16 April 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about climate change.

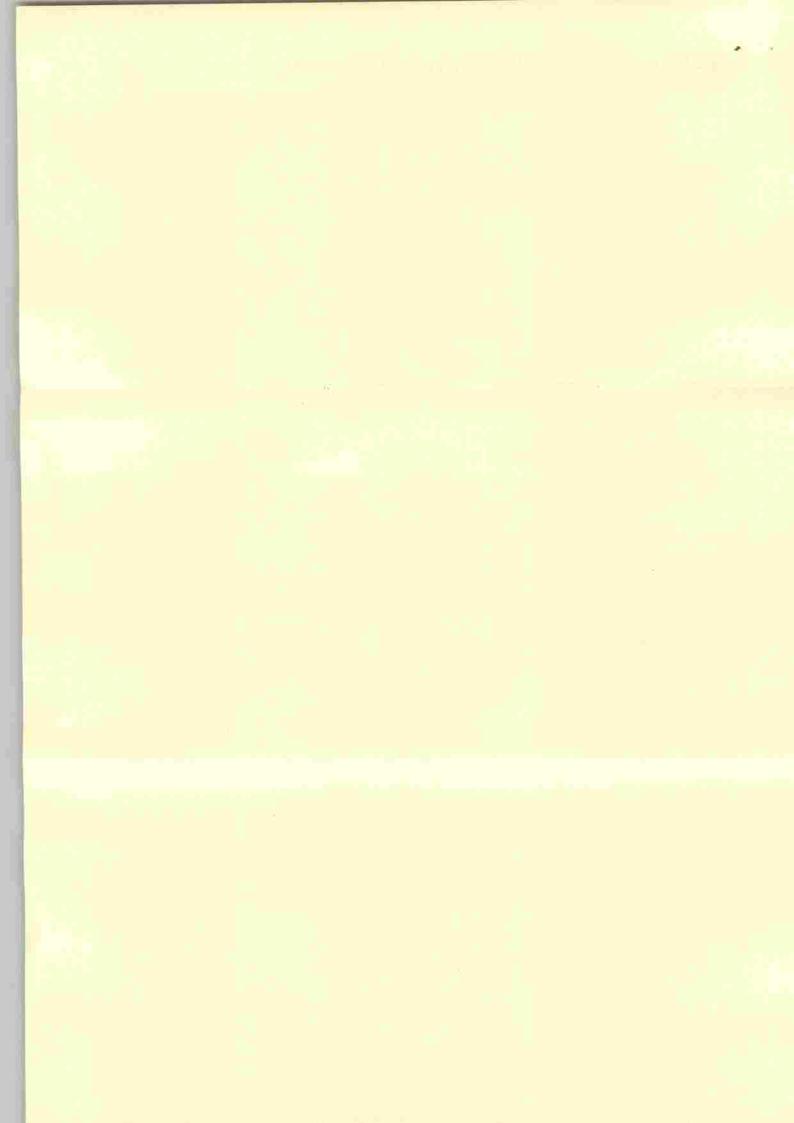
I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

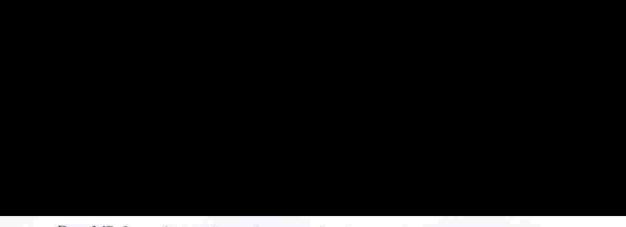
Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

실내용원 발발 기계보다 내 그런 시간에 되었다.





Dear MP, It won't cost the earth to save the planet. Please take action on climate change. I really care about our environment. Please take the time to read the latest IPCC report summaries - because this is probably the greatest political issue facing the world in our generation. You can read the report here: http://l.usa.gov/lhR6qrl Please also push for a strong manifesto commitment from your party to say what they'll do to decarbonise our economy rapidly, particularly by increasing low carbon energy sources and driving energy efficiency, as the report says we need to. Wind, water and sun are much more secure than buying coal and oil from Russia or Qatar. Wishing you a restful time off over the Easter recess. Kind regards,

This email was sent via Nudge by





I contacted Mr Lilley because of his role as Energy Secretary. I thought he might be interested that rather than simply making bills more transparent British Gas (at least) have used the changes in billing to add an additional income stream in the form of standing charges which actually increases the income they gain from low usage customers or even An additional point that nobody has yet been able to explain to me is if I sell this house to someone who does not take up a gas company contract who becomes this unused meter's new guardian and handles its bills. My initial telephone contact at British Gas insisted that any new occupant would HAVE to take up a new gas contract with a supplier, simply buying the house and choosing to use another energy source would not be acceptable unless the meter was removed. I thought he might find find this outcome from his department's illuminating. As it happens I live in but I am not seeking constituency services simply policies that protect customers (or in my case ex-customers) from sharp unethical business practices. Best regards,



Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

13 May 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about Drax Power Station.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP House of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

8th May 2014

Dear Mr Lilley

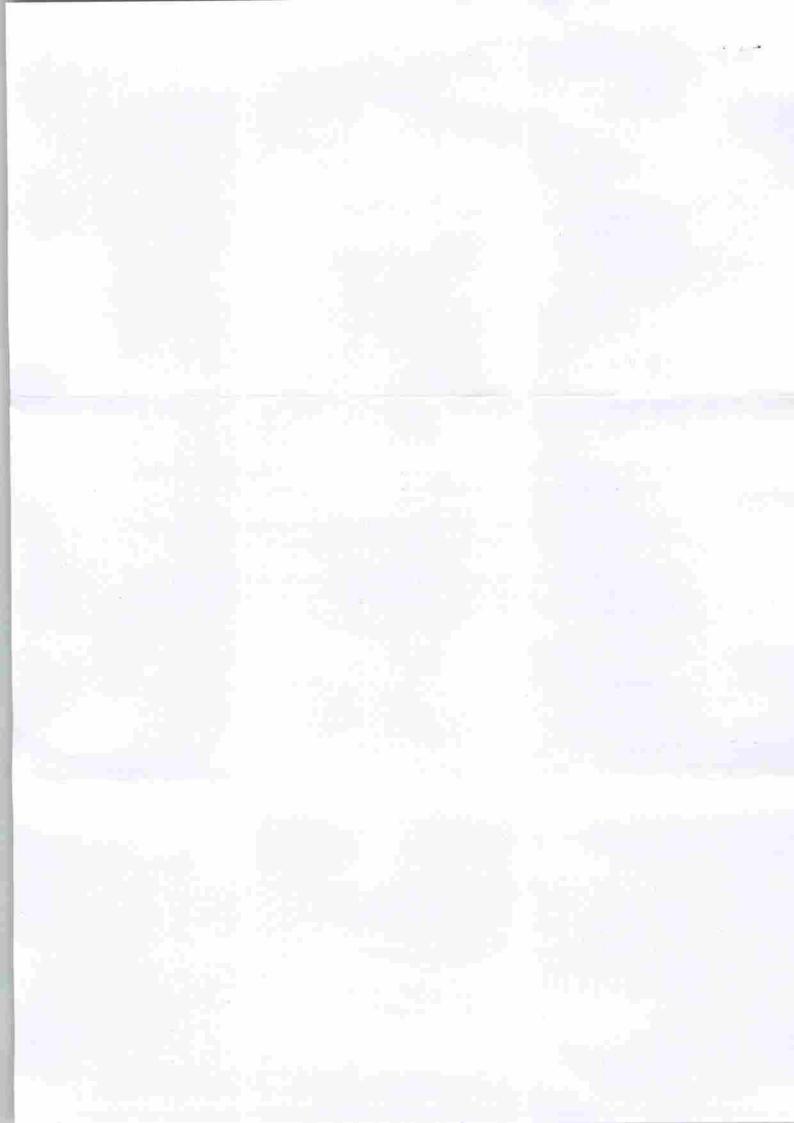
I read with concern the letter by in Saturday's Daily Telegraph, the 3rd May. This concerns the conversion of Drax power station to burn bio fuel.

I have noted that this conversion has been the subject of news comment over the past year or so. First it is 'on' and then 'postponed' and now it appears to be 'on' again.

Could you kindly find out through the good offices of the appropriate Minister just what the present position is? Secondly what is his comment about the letter in the Telegraph and is it factually correct?

Thankng you in anticipation

Yours sincerely





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

25 June 2014

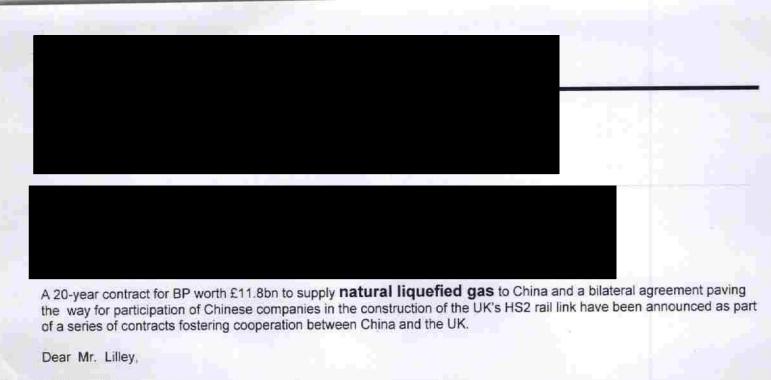
Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine who is concerned about a 20 year contract BP have signed to supply natural liquefied gas to China.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely





Just a minute -

- I am under the impression that as our North Sea reserves have run out, and that we have to import expensive Russian gas, that we have nothing to export and also that our gas bill have soared in direct consequence.

How can we have gas to spare for export ?

Yours sincerely,





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

02 July 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a postcard I have received from the above constituent of mine about climate change.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely



We love the world

Dear Mr Lilley

Please ask your party leader to put action on climate change at the heart of your general election manifesto.

Climate change is already driving hunger, conflict and extreme weather in the world's poorest countries. This year's floods brought home the reality of climate change to people in the UK too. But the future could be safer for millions of people if the incoming government ups its game.

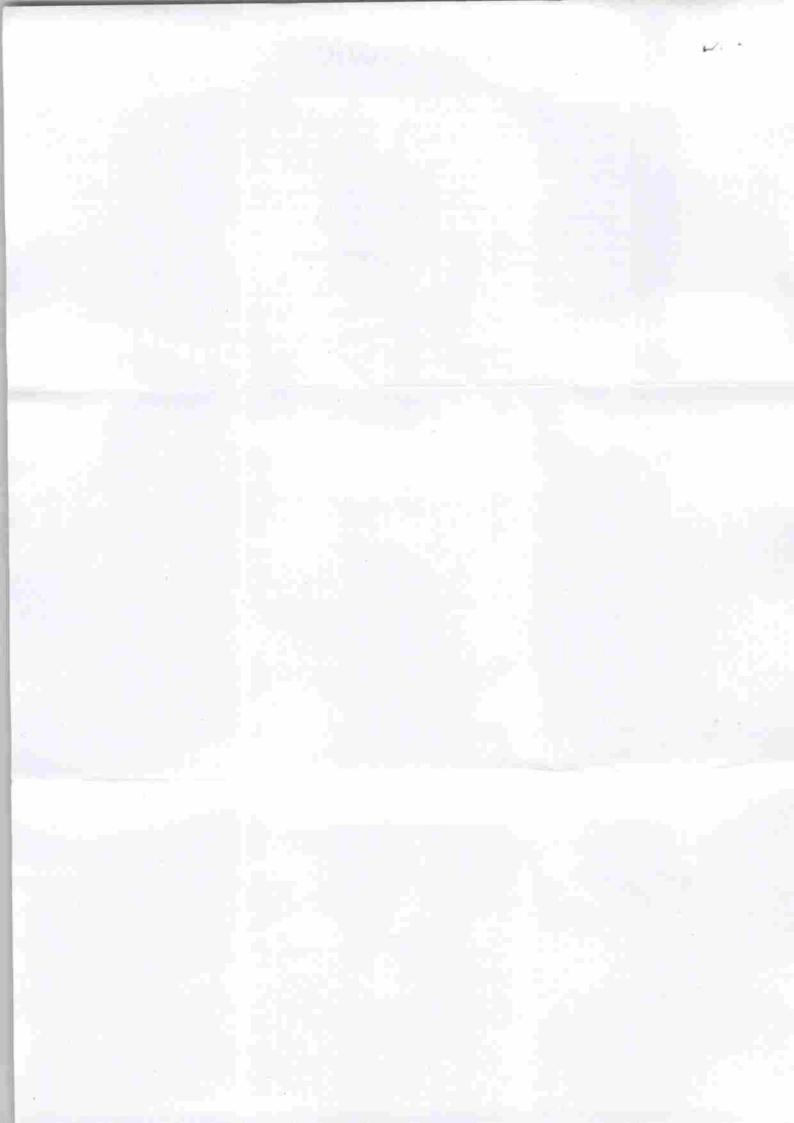
Your party's manifesto should make commitments to:

- · fully implement the Climate Change Act
- increase support to poor countries to adapt to climate change and access clean energy

 ensure that action on climate change is a central element of the UN's post-2015 development goals

· make ambitious plans to achieve a fair, transparent and legally binding global climate deal in 2015.

For further information, please see our briefing: christianaid.org.uk/ climatebriefing.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

10 July 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about energy bills and fuel poverty.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

to the Hondand



Dear Mr Lilley,

On average 25,000 people die of the cold every winter. It's a national scandal.

It is unacceptable in this country that people are dying of cold.

I'm joining tens of thousands of people calling for carbon taxes already collected from our energy bills to be used to:

- · Make home energy efficiency a UK infrastructure priority
- Make 2 million low income homes highly energy efficient by 2020 and all low income homes highly energy efficient by 2025

This is the only permanent solution to high energy bills and fuel poverty. To show your support please email MPSupporters@energybillrevolution.org or tweet @EnergyBillRev.

Please let me know if you will join me in supporting this important campaign.

Yours sincerely,







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

23 July 2014

Dear Ed

Further to previous correspondence, I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about Drax Power Station.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the additional points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)



Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP House of Commons LONDON SW1A 0AA

18th July 2014

Dear Mr Lilley

Many thanks for sending me a copy of Mr Davey's to my enquiry of the 8th May. I have read this and frankly, he has not answered the specific points I raised, viz:

Who thought it would be environmentally and economically viable to convert part of Drax to burn wood pellets which are to be imported from North Carolina?

Is the Drax environment head correct in stating that the exercise adds 3% more CO2 than the equivalent amount of coal and what about the CO2 generated in transportation — is this included in the calculations?

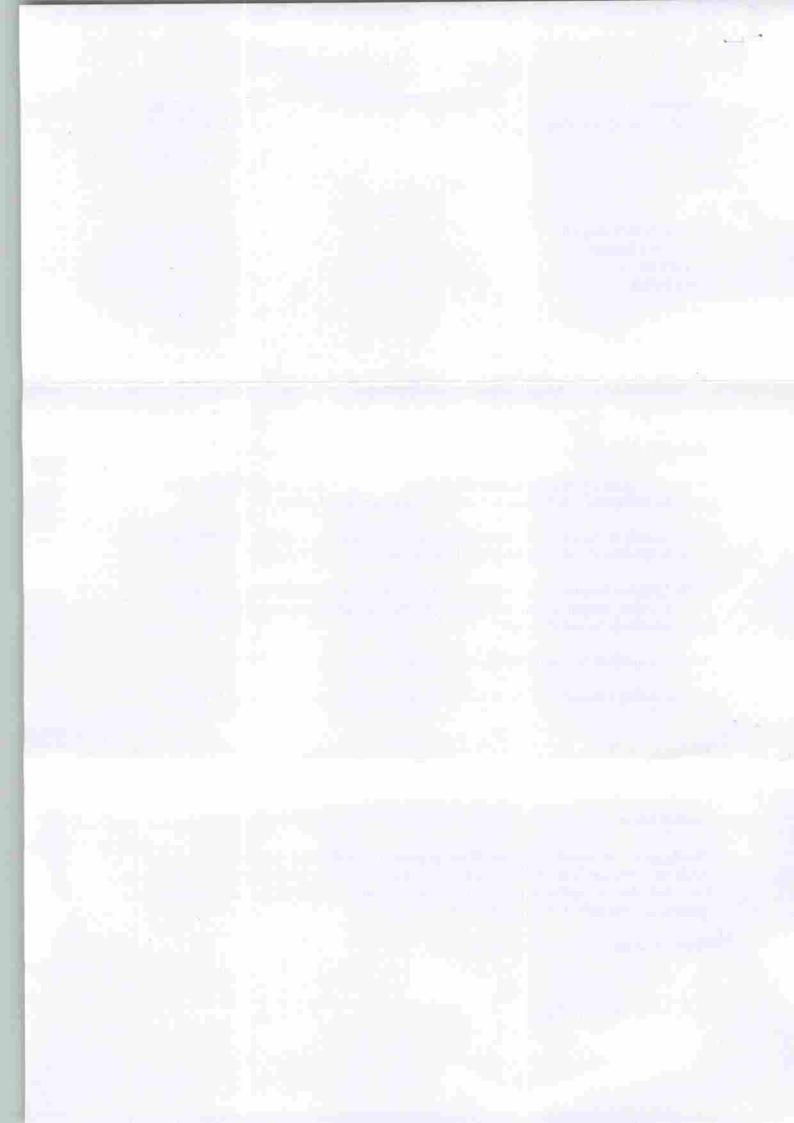
I would appreciate Mr Davey's response to these queries.

Whilst writing I should also like to know the current average strike prices per MWh for:

Coal Gas On shore wind power Off shore wind power Nuclear power

Finally, given the current price per MWh is between £50 and £60, how is the difference made up to the providers of this power? I am sorry to burden you with these questions, but I consider the matter to be very important and suspect that we are saddling future generations with substantial commitments.

Thanking you in anticipation, yours sincerely





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

18 August 2014

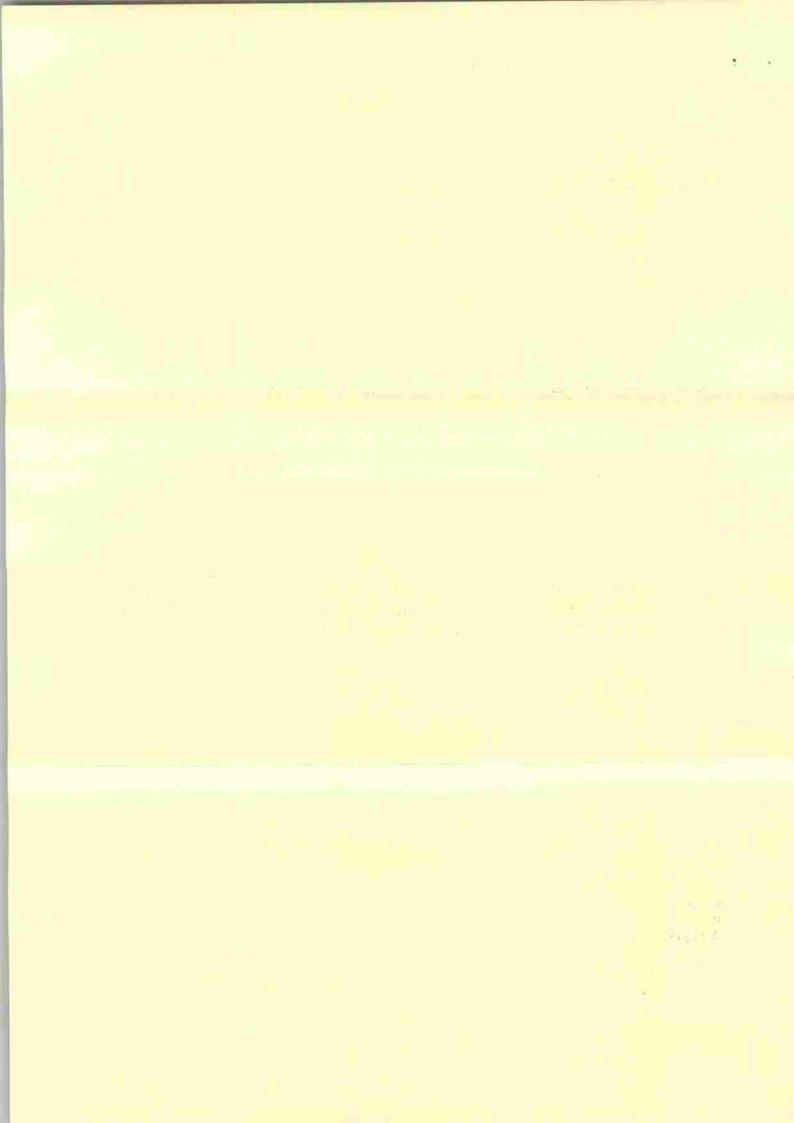
Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about solar power.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

p(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)



Dear Peter Lilley,

Solar power offers huge opportunities for schools and communities to generate clean electricity, and make money at the same time.

The economics of solar are improving very quickly â?" the price of panels is plummeting and support costs in the UK are a third of what they were in 2010. In several countries (Italy, Germany) large roof-top systems can already produce electricity cheaper than buying it from the grid.

We have only 9 Panels on our roof and we are benefitting enormously from making our own electricity, could be monitored as a school project.

Across the UK communities and businesses are rapidly taking advantage of the solar transformation. But tens of thousands of schools are still being left in the dark.

The benefits for schools are huge: a typical secondary school fitted with a good-sized solar PV system could save up to £8,000 a year. If every school in the UK installed solar they could earn more than £200 million, and prevent the same amount of CO2 emissions as taking 110,000 cars off the road â?" making an invaluable contribution to the UKâ?Ts efforts to tackle climate change.

While some schools have already gone ahead with installing solar, tens of thousands have yet to do so, held back by high capital costs, planning and grid barriers and a confusing proliferation of schemes.

Thatâ?Ts why lâ?Tm asking you to support Friends of the Earthâ?Ts campaign to ensure that every school in your constituency that wants to should be able to install solar power. As a first ask I would like to know whether this is a proposal you support, and if you would be willing to write to all local schools urging them to join up to the campaign.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

20 August 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about the Friends of the Earth's Run on Sun campaign.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincepely

Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Dear Peter Lilley,

Solar power offers huge opportunities for schools and communities to generate clean electricity, and make money at the same time.

The economics of solar are improving very quickly â€" the price of panels is plummeting and support costs in the UK are a third of what they were in 2010. In several countries (Italy, Germany) large roof-top systems can already produce electricity cheaper than buying it from the grid.

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While some schools have already gone ahead with installing solar, tens of thousands have yet to do so, held back by high capital costs, planning and grid barriers and a confusing proliferation of schemes.

That's why l'm asking you to support Friends of the Earth's campaign to ensure that every school in your constituency that wants to should be able to install solar power. As a first ask I would like to know whether this is a proposal you support, and if you would be willing to write to all local schools urging them to join up to the campaign.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

22 September 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter from two young constituents of mine, who are concerned about climate change.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a response to the pints that have been raised on this issue.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP House of Commons London SWIA OAA

Dear Mr Lilley,

I am writing to raise the concern about the future we will be feeing.

We are concerned about the amount of fossil fuels we are using and wasting. We would like to raise awareness to the public about how much we are really using any how quickly the fossil fuels are running out. On our own we can make a inference, but together we can change the world. We would like you to consider our thoughts and perhaps mention it to others.

In our school, we did a survey about how much energy we use on average and found that 66% of people waste energy everyony (in different forms).

Our Science Teacher guoted, you do not inherit the world from your parents, you are only borrowing it from your children. Native American Proverb. This means that if we want our children to have a future as good as owns (possibly better) we should treat the world with the upmost respect.

We would like you to help us by explaining to others how important it is to save the environment, by cutting down on fassil fuels, which will save our future. If we don't to anything by 2050, we will run out of foksil fuels and we will have change the way we live. hank you for reading,



Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

02 October 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about the Warm Home Discount.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

(Signed in Peter Lilley's absence to avoid delay)





Dear Rt Hon. Peter Lilley MP,

I am shocked that the Children's Society have found that two-thirds of families, living in the UK today – that's five million families – are likely to turn their heating down because of the high cost of their energy bills. They also found that when they asked 28% of children said their home was too cold last winter.

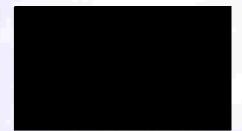
It's currently up to energy companies' discretion whether these struggling families, receive the Warm Home Discount worth £135 per year to help them with their energy bills.

The Government should make sure the energy companies are giving this discount to all families living in poverty so that children's health is not put at risk by cold homes.

Please write to Rt Hon. Ed Davey MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, on my behalf, to ask him to ensure that all families in poverty receive the Warm Home Discount.

Yours Sincerely,

Sincerely,







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

13 October 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about the potential effects of climate change on London.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Dear Peter Lilley,

I love London, but unfortunately it could be affected by climate change if we don't take action to protect it. As my MP, please help me to protect the things I love.

It is my home city, but over the next few decades could be increasingly prone to flooding as and when climate change takes a hold, resulting in higher sea levels and more extreme weather events e.g. high winds, heavy rainfall and storm surges affecting both residential, business and cultural sites.

Please write to the Prime Minister and ask him to take action in the name of the things we all love, like London.

There is a vital opportunity in the run-up to the European Commission meeting in late October. Please urge David Cameron to stand by the promises he made at the recent UN Climate Summit in New York and push for a stronger EU climate target.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

03 November 2014

Dear Ed

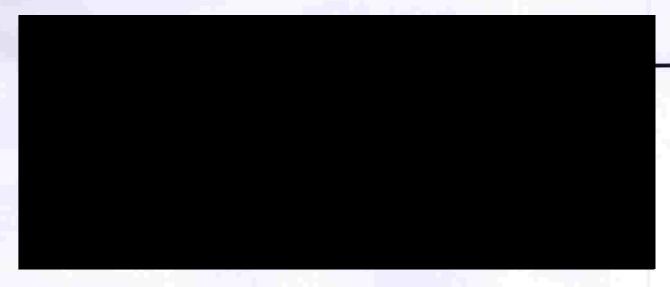
I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about climate change.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk





Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP Hitchin and Harpenden House of Commons SW1A0AA

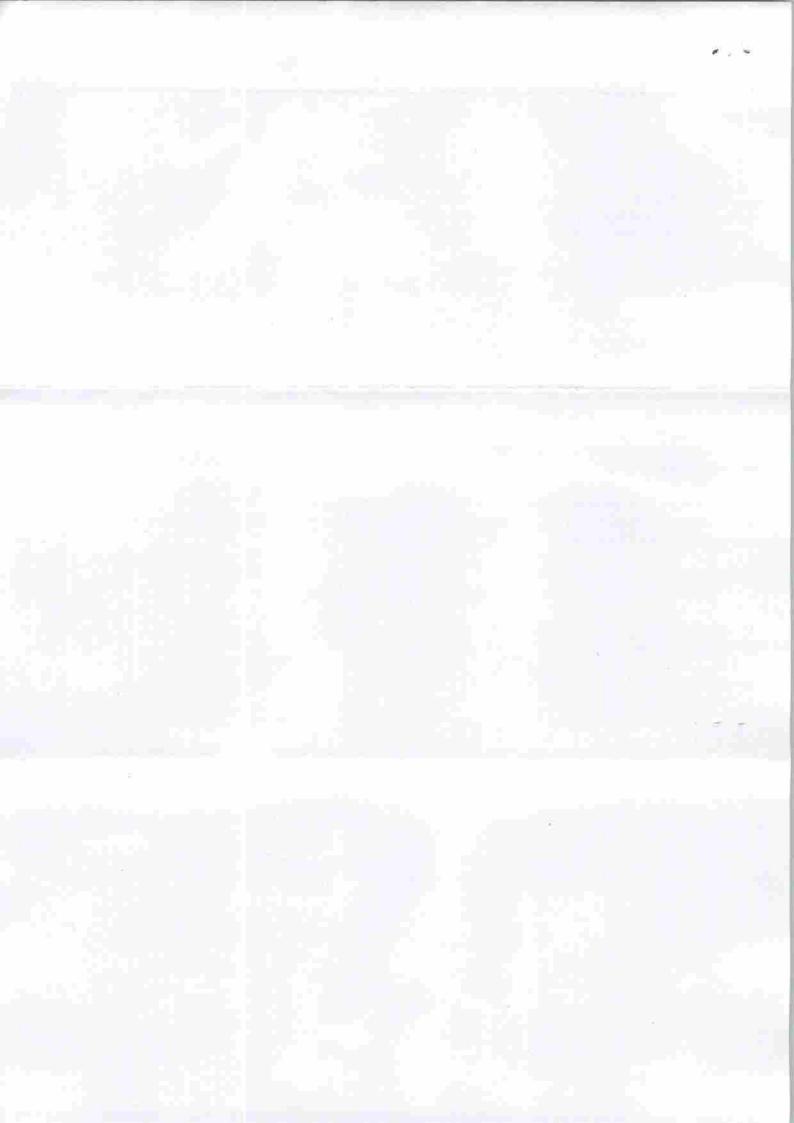
Dear Mr Lilley,

As a constituent of yours and as a supporter of CAFOD, I'm writing to ask how your party's election manifesto and proposed programme for government would commit the UK to:

- 1. Prevent climate change pushing people deeper into poverty overseas
- Support a transition from polluting fossil fuels, to sustainable energy which meets the needs of the poorest communities around the world.

Yours sincerely,







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

18 November 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of an email I have received from the above constituent of mine about biomass electricity subsidies.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840



Dear Mr Lilley,

I am writing to you as my local MP, and because you, like many others, take a keen interest in issues of energy and climate change. I am asking you to please support the campaign to end subsidies for biomass electricity and, in doing so, to call on Ed Davey MP to make sure that no more Contracts for Difference (CfD) subsidies are given to biomass power stations.

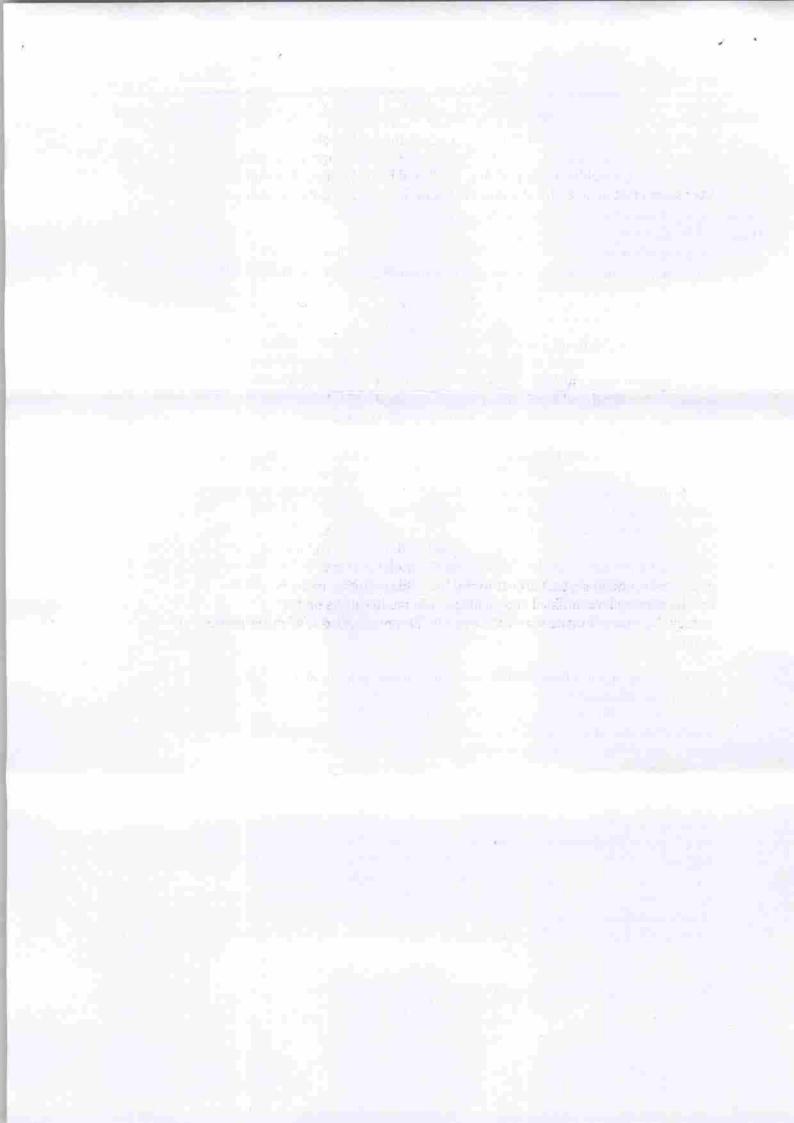
The UK urgently needs to take the lead on reducing climate-changing emissions, substantially limiting the impacts of our energy policy abroad, and at the same time protecting communities from both the impacts of energy generation and fuel poverty. Subsidies for biomass electricity undermine these objectives.

Large-scale biomass is promoted as an alternative to coal, and indeed some coal-fired power stations have converted to burning wood pellets. We must move away from dirty fossil fuels and stop burning coal. But swapping it with biomass is a false solution, and one that is doing much more harm than good.

Currently, lucrative subsidies in the form of Renewable Obligation Certificates and Contracts for Difference are incentivising companies to burn millions of tonnes of wood, much of it imported. In the UK alone, current industry plans would create a demand for imported wood on a scale never seen before. I'm talking about almost 7 times the UK's annual wood production.

Big biomass is unsustainable. A significant proportion of wood for bioenergy is being sourced from the clear-felled forests of the southern US (the world's most biodiverse temperate forests) and highly biodiverse forests of Canada. Whole trees are being cut down, turned into pellets, loaded onto ships, transported thousands of miles across the ocean, loaded onto trains, and delivered to power stations to be burned. This is not renewable energy, it is an ecological disaster. Even DECC admit that this scenario is worse in terms of CO2 emissions than burning coal. Yet they still offer subsidies for it.

Big biomass isn't just polluting, it's expensive too. Already, the



industry is subsidised to the tune of billions of pounds a year, while being responsible for forest destruction, increased carbon emissions, and damaging community health through exposure to wood dust, particulate and pollutant emissions from biomass infrastructure. On average, each job in a biomass power station requires £1.2 million in subsidies, money that should be spent on reducing emissions through home insulation and support for truly low-carbon renewables. On top of this, the Wood Panel Industry Federation has warned that up to 8,600 UK jobs are under threat as a result of growing competition for wood.

Biomass electricity is inefficient. Biomass power stations are generally 20-30% and never more than 40% efficient. But biomass heating and efficient combined heat and power (CHP) can reach 80% efficiency. Subsidising electricity creates an incentive for CHP operators to maximise electricity generation rather than efficient heat and, in the process, makes power stations as inefficient as 35%.

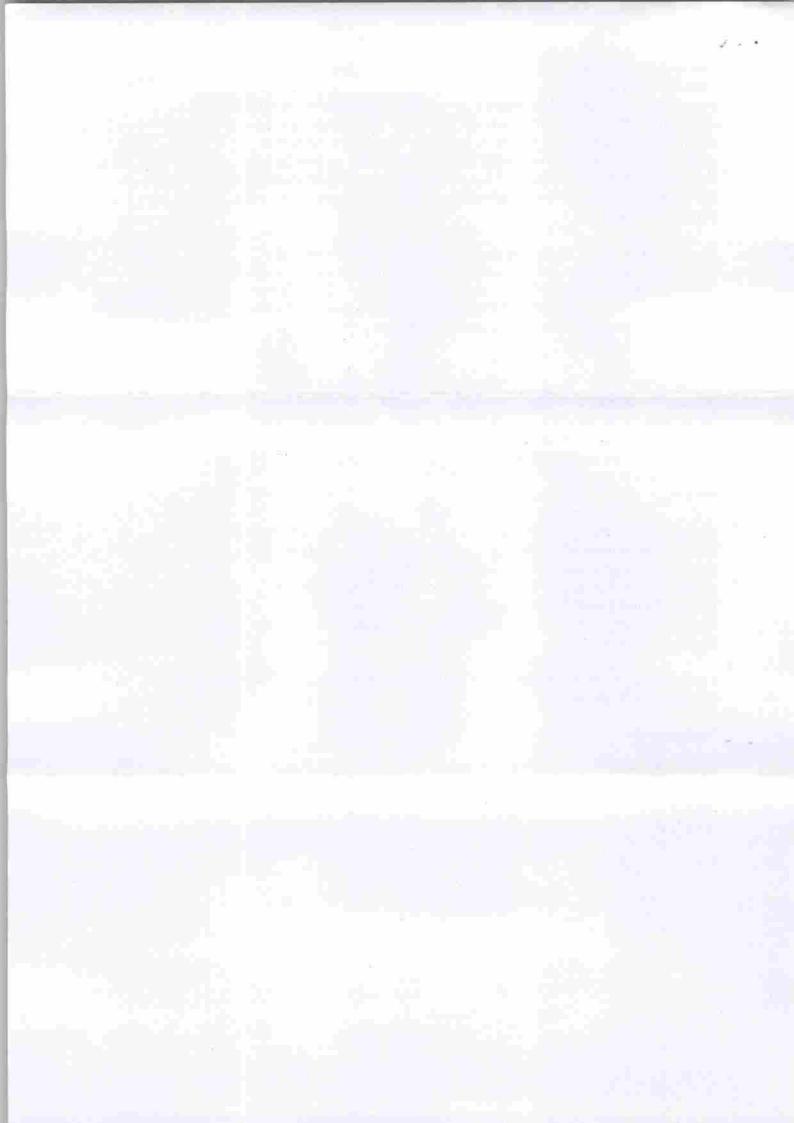
Crucially, the sustainability of imported wood can never be adequately certified or controlled through sustainability standards. That's because the scale of the demand is simply too big. Although standards are proposed in the UK, there is no proposal for any independent verification. Effectively, this is an invitation to fraud. Moreover, the proposed greenhouse gas standards have been shown to be inadequate by DECC's own research.

As my MP, I'm asking you to join communities, campaigners, concerned scientists and conservation organisations, in North America and the UK, in calling for an end to subsidies for biomass electricity at every opportunity, and to support efforts to roll back this polluting industry. For the reasons I've outlined above, please join me in calling on the Energy Secretary to make sure that no new CfDs are awarded to biomass power station operators.

I look forward to your response and to seeing correspondence on this matter. Many thanks in advance.

Yours sincerely,







Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Gregory Barker MP
Minister of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

07 February 2014

Dear Greg

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about the installation of solar panels on pension fund owned commercial property.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840 Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk

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And the second second



Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP
Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden
House of Commons
London
SW1A OAA

Tuesday 4th February 2014

Dear Mr Lilley,

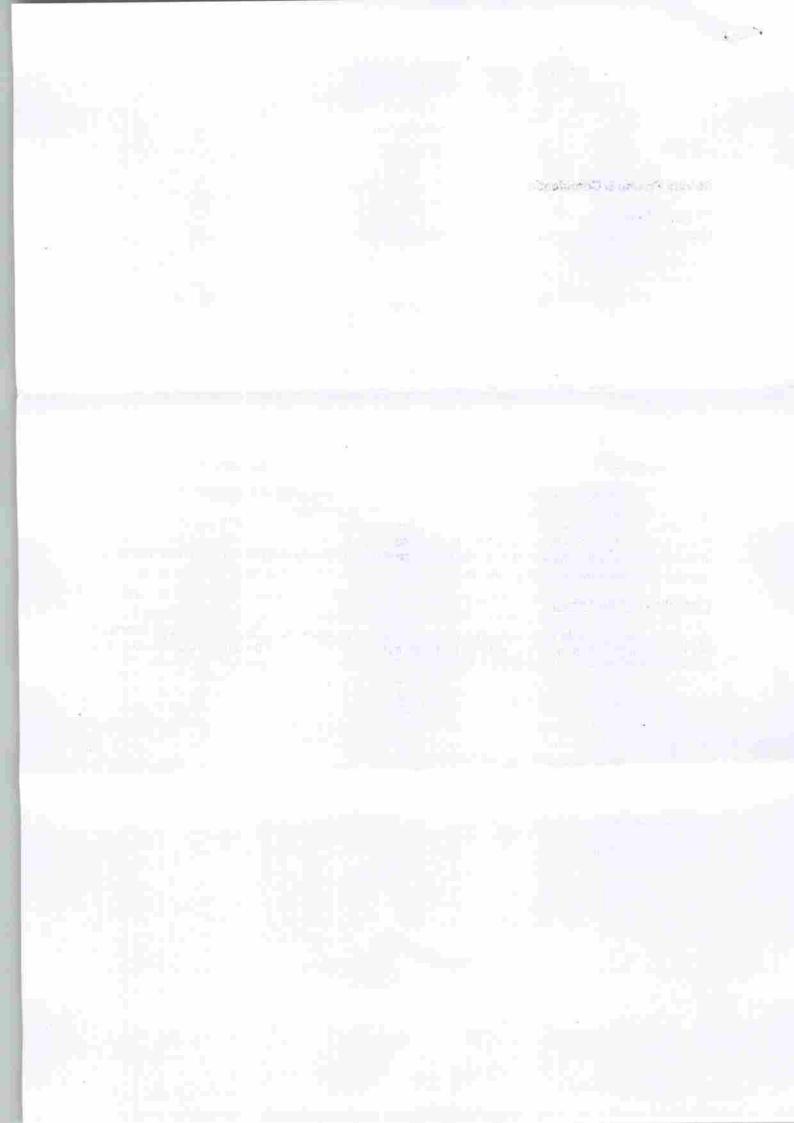
I do believe the Nation is breathing a sigh of relief that, at last, the economy is on the mend and that house prices are recovering adding to the feeling of improvement confirming that the coalition's policies are beginning to work.

I received this morning a note from concerning a pension fund owned commercial property, and the fact that if as Landlord the fund installs solar panels then it will be taxed on the purchase of the units and also on the feed in tariff income that could be generated. This is in contrast with the statement yesterday from Greg Barker MP that installing solar panels is better than a pension, but a pension seems to be penalised if they do.

I enclose an extract from the letter I received.



Enc.



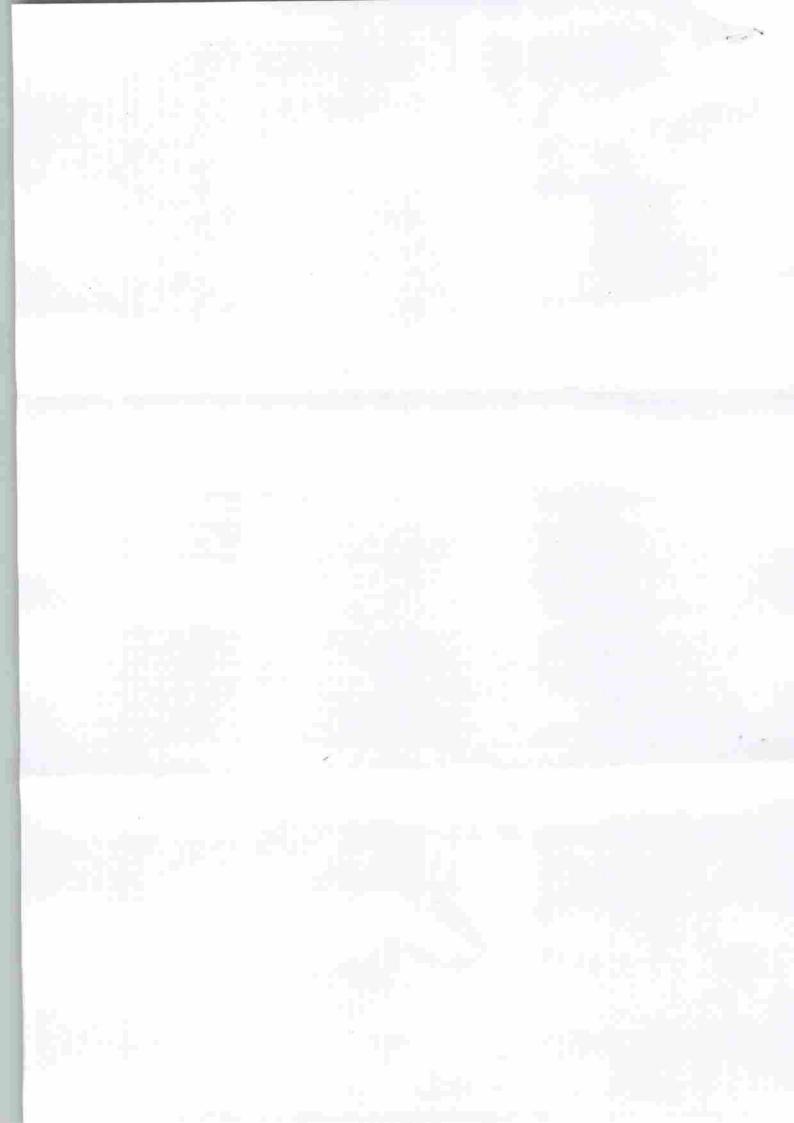


Environmental issues and energy efficiency measures affecting property owners

A number of issues have recently come to our attention which could potentially have an impact on the property currently held within the SIPP. These issues are quite varied, and whilst not all may directly affect the SIPP at this time we felt it would be beneficial for you to be generally aware of the recent developments we have highlighted below.

Installation of Solar Panels

There are a few possible scenarios. The first scenario is where you would like to install solar panels on the building held within the SIPP, paid for by funds from the SIPP. This is an attractive proposition as it would allow the SIPP to benefit from any applicable feed-in tariff payments and the tenant may also benefit from reduced energy bills, so there could be scope to increase the rental payable for the property. However, HM Revenue & Customs ("HMRC") views the purchase of solar panels by a pension fund as the acquisition of "Tangible Movable Property" and this will trigger tax penalties for the pension fund. It is also possible that the income from a feed-in tariff will be seen as trading income and also attract a tax charge. As a result, we would be unable to authorise the purchase of solar panels by a SIPP.





Member of Parliament for Hitchin and Harpenden

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



Rt Hon Edward Davey MP Secretary of State Department of Energy and Climate Change 3 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

31 March 2014

Dear Ed

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the above constituent of mine about nuclear fusion.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply to the points that have been raised.

Yours sincerely

Tel: 020 7219 4577 Fax: 020 7219 3840

Email: feedback@peterlilley.co.uk www.peterlilley.co.uk



24th March 2014

Peter,

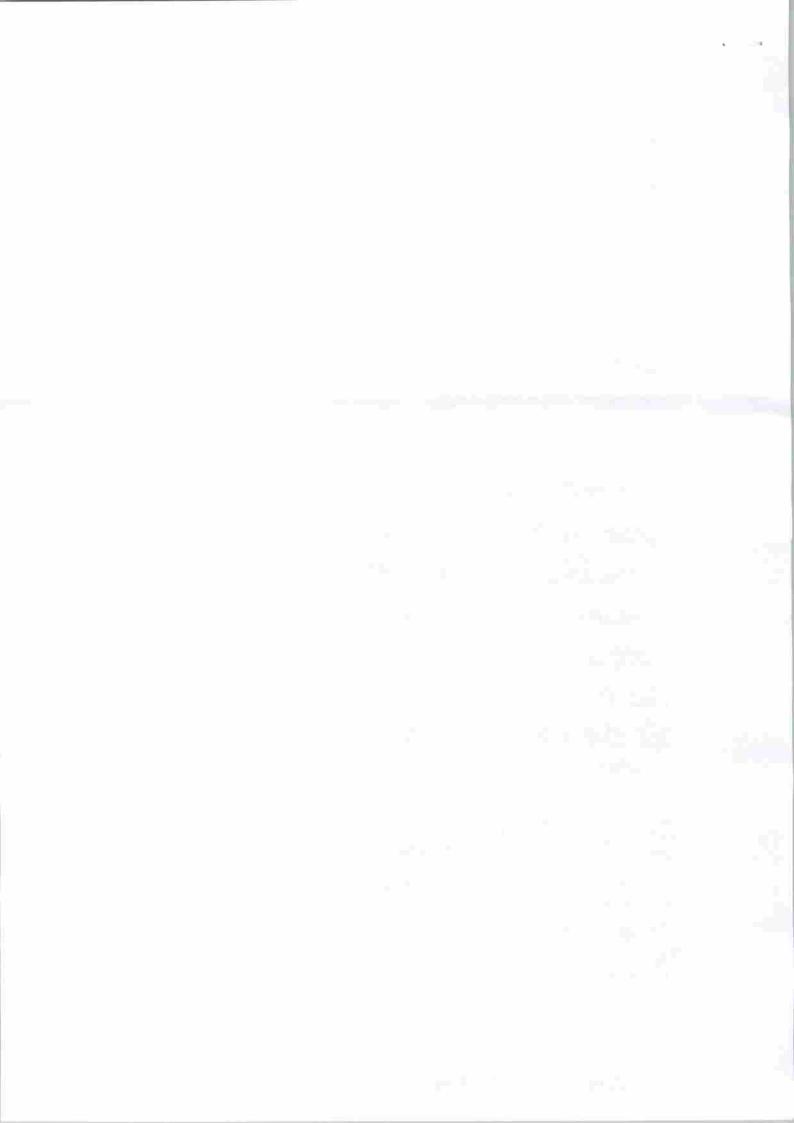
please.

Please find the endosed article from yesterday's Mail On Sunday.

Nuclear Fusion is the way to go for cheap, dean, reliable energy.

the programme with enough research funds as the Chinese are for example. Instead we are Spending 3 times as much annually on subsidised wind turbines all over the country, which are inefficient and only produce electricity under the right conditions. They say that Fusion power on a large enough scale is only 10 years away if we back it.

Could you give it some consideration



New technology is 100% green – but because billions go t



T COULD stop man-made global warming once and for all – and give the world limitless, clean energy for as long as humanity lasts. Nuclear fusion – zerocarbon electric power produced from sea water in a doughnut-shaped reactor that imitates the sun – is also far closer to a reality than most people think.

But while Britain, the United States and the European Union spend hundreds of billions on subsidies for wind farms, solar panels and power stations fuelled by wood pellets, fusion is being starved of funds.

As a result, the ultimate prize of developing this revolutionary technology now looks certain to be claimed by China and South Korea – despite the fact that the science behind it was pioneered here and in the US.

The challenge posed by fusion has always been daunting.

A conventional fission reactor, of the type developed to build the atom bomb by the Manhattan Project during the Second World War, harnesses the energy produced when atoms of uranium

Fusion will provide us

split. This can be dangerous, but it isn't difficult, once you obtain a critical mass of enriched, radioactive uranium – when the chain reaction develops of its own accord, and continues unless you stop it.

But it also has a nasty by-product – nuclear waste – that has to be buried in sealed containers.

By contrast, a fusion machine taps the much greater amount of energy unleashed by fusing atoms of hydrogen.

This has advantages. A fusion reactor's fuel is heavy hydrogen – atoms that contain one proton and one or two neutrons – and can be refined from sea water. The helium gas created when the atoms fuse is not radioactive and is harmless.

But to get the reaction going requires the gas to be heated by giant magnets to temperatures of up to 200 million degrees Celsius, so that it becomes a plasma – the fourth state of matter, where the electrons that normally orbit the proton and neutron nuclei become detached.

The challenge facing scientists developing fusion is containing a plasma and keeping it stable.

Sceptics often sneer that fusion energy has been said to be '50 years away' for decades, and that however hard scientists try, it always will be.

But according to Professor Steve Cowley, director of the UK's Centre for Fusion Energy at Culham, near Oxford, huge technological milestones have already been passed in the quest to develop fusion on a large scale. These have been largely ignored by the media.

The design of a fusion reactor was settled long ago: a hollow



doughnut known as a 'tokamak' or 'torus', ringed by powerful magnets. These keep the plasma in place. At JET, the Joint European Torus at Culham, nuclear fusion first generated an output of 16 megawatts (MW) back in 1997.

'People just didn't seem to realise how significant that was,' said Prof Cowley. 'I'm always being asked, how can we get the sun in a bottle? But we've already done that at JET, and we've done it predictably. So far, the scale has been small.

'But would you have told the Wright brothers that their first flight didn't count because they'd only flown 100ft?'

Dave Rasmussen, leader of the fusion energy group at the US National Laboratory at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, which was once the Manhattan Project's home, describes other advances.

For example, the discovery that plasmas are prone to disruption – shockwaves that can cause them to lose heat and damage the reactor – presented a major hurdle.

But an extraordinary solution has been found: firing into the plasma pellets of solid gas, cooled to minus 263C. Thanks to this breakthrough, plasmas have been kept going for many hours at JET.

Prof Cowley and Mr Rasmussen are both playing key roles in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER),

This is like trying to get the sun in a bottle

whose construction is now under way at Cadarache in France.

This will be five times bigger than JET, and its goal is ambitious: to achieve, some time in the mid-2020s, an output of 500MW – as much as a fair-sized commercial power station – far exceeding the power it takes to start the fusion

reaction. This would be a gamechanging event. Debate about climate and energy policy would start to end right then, as people and governments realised that a safe and infinite low-carbon energy source was within reach.

The scientists are confident. 'We've solved more or less all of the physics problems, and most of the engineering issues,' Mr Rasmussen said.

Prof Cowley added: 'A large-scale demonstration of nuclear fusion isn't five decades away, but a little more than one.'

However, enormous obstacles remain - not least those imposed by humans.

At about £17 billion, building ITER isn't cheap, but this compares to the £46 billion the UK will have spent on subsidies for wind, biomass and other types of renewable energy by 2020, plus many billions more on connecting installations to the grid.

The taxpayer-funded Engineering and Physical Science Research Council budget for fusion costs just £40 million a year, but research into renewables is more than three times as much at £130 million.

As for Europe, by 2011 the total EU investment in renewables was running at £67billion a year – a figure which, thanks to colossal subsidies, has continued to rise.

Yet though the EU is one of the main international sponsors for ITER, its total contribution is just £400 million a year.

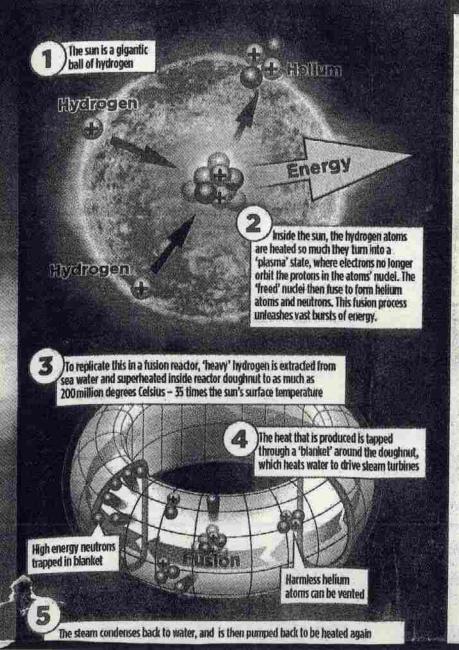
The reluctance to spend big money means ITER has had to be funded by an unwieldy coalition, including the US, China, India, Japan, the EU and South Korea.

Insiders say the project is bogged down by bureaucracy, and sometimes those involved are forced to make decisions that make no scientific sense.

For example, its tokamak will be assembled from nine identical segments. Because each ITER partner wants to stimulate their own hitech industries, it has been agreed that seven segments will be made in Europe, and the other two in South Korea.

What will happen if they don't quite fit together? 'It will be a

'eco-power' gravy train instead, the Chinese will get it first



Greens hail MoS exposé of forests destroyed to give UK 'clean' energy

BRITAIN'S leading green groups yesterday condemned the practice of burning American hardwood trees in British power stations – as revealed by this newspaper last week.

And in a development with potentially huge significance, senior Friends of the Earth (FoE) official Kenneth Richter revealed the European Commission has launched a formal investigation into the subsidies decreed by the Government for Drax's 'blomass' operations, following an FoE complaint.

Mr Richter said: 'Cutting down forests to burn them doesn't make sense as a way of cutting carbon emissions, and it endangers the forests.

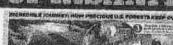
'Wood is dirtier than coal, and even if the trees regrow, for many years they will absorb much less carbon than they would have if left alone.

'Subsidising this practice is the opposite of what we should be doing,'

The Mail on Sunday showed that Europe's biggest supposedly 'renewable' energy power plant, Drax in North Yorkshire, uses US firm Enviva as its main supplier, and pumps the greenhouse

Historic woodland 3,800 miles away is stripped; pulped, shipped here and burned in the vast brax power Mation. Doing it belches out more CO2 than coal ... at a huge coat YOU pay for. And all for a cleaner, grooper Britain!

THE BONFIRE OF INSANITY



BURNING ISSUE: Our report on the practice last week

and Immingham. At present, Drax receives £62.5 million a year from the subsidies because biomass counts under EU rules as a 'carbon neutral' form of energy.

This is paid by consumers from levies added to their bills – a sum that is set to triple as Drax's blomass operations grow. The Government also gave it a loan guarantee to underwrite some of the

mix, but the Government needs to set out a clear policy to make it work."

Greenpeace supports other forms of renewables, such as wind and solar energy, but not 'inefficient systems burning coal, gas or wood'.

Another campaign group that has been fighting blomass subsidies since 2006 is Biofuelwatch.

Almuth Ernsting, the group's UK director, said there was now 'a scientific consensus that burning wood is harmful'.

She said the argument made by Drax and Enviva – that it does not matter if the cut down trees take 100 years to regrow – is misleading.

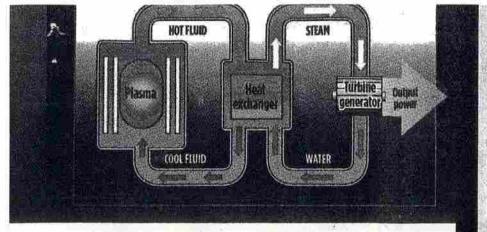
'Once cut, they may never recover, and resources such as the North Carolina bottomland woods have already shrunk drastically,' she added.

Meanwhile, top brokers

These woods may never recover'

£700 million cost of converting its furnaces from burning coal to wood. The investigation will consider whether this amounted to unfair competition.

Greenpeace UK called on



disaster', Prof Cowley admitted. And while funding shortages have delayed ITER's construction, they are already holding up the next stage of delivering commercial fusion power.

The next big technological hurdle - and, perhaps, the last - is the

but Chinese are pouring money into it

development of tiles for the tokamak's lining. These will have to be tough enough to withstand the highenergy bombardment of neutrons produced by fusion.

It is not that these tiles must be made before ITER will work, but for a fusion reactor to be commercial, they need to last a long time. Scientists - led by a team from Oxford University - have many theoretical ideas about how to do this.

But, to be sure, said Mr Rasmussen, they need a 'neutron factory' in order to test new alloys under the conditions they will meet inside a tokamak.

He and Prof Cowley agreed that this could be done now, so that the tiles were ready at the same time as ITER – if the total budget were roughly doubled.

Instead, said Prof Cowley, 'we'll have to wait until the world sees that ITER works. Then we'll have to spend another decade or more on the materials. This delay could simply be eliminated'.

While Europe and America hang back on the sidelines, South Korea and China are already planning 'son of ITER' reactors and investing billions in the technology.

"The Chinese have decided that the pace of fusion development is too slow, and that they'll take the risk,' said Prof Cowley.

'They're assuming that ITER will work, and they are pouring money into the next step.' one million tons of Enviva's wood pellet fuel from its chimney stacks each year.

At least 80 per cent of Enviva's pellets come from hardwood species such as oaks and maples, not fast-growing conifers. Much of the wood is cut from the unique ecosystem of the 'bottomland' forests of North Carolina, then shipped 3,800 miles to Hull

approach to biomass, saying that contrary to the claims made by the Department of Energy & Climate Change, it was not 'sustainable'.

A Greenpeace spokesman said: 'Biomass power stations are supposed to burn waste wood – not timber harvested from natural forests. Properly regulated, biomass can play a supporting role in our energy investors to sell any shares they may hold in Drax because the future of the firm's subsidies on which its biomass business depends is uncertain.

If the European Commission rules against the loan guarantee and subsidies, this would represent a substantial downside risk, one of its reports states.

...as BBC boss gags 'sceptics' from climate change debates

A BBC executive in charge of editorial standards has ordered programme editors not to broadcast debates between climate scientists and global warming sceptics.

Alasdair MacLeod claimed that such discussions amount to 'false balance' and breach an undertaking to the Corporation's watchdog, the BBC Trust.

Mr MacLeod, head of editorial standards and compliance for BBC Scotland, sent an email on February 27 to 18 senior producers and editors, which has been obtained by The Mail on Sunday, It reads: 'When covering climate change stories, we should not run debates/discussions directly between scientists and sceptics. If a programme does run such a discussion, it will . . . be in breach of the editorial guidelines on impartiality.'

Two weeks before the email

was sent, Lord Lawson, chairman of the sceptic think-tank the Global Warming Policy Foundation, was invited on to Radio 4's Today programme to debate with Sir Brian Hoskins, director of the Grantham Institute for Climate Change Research at Imperial College, whether this year's storms were the result of climate change.

In fact, as Lord Lawson made clear, he is not a climate 'denier' and accepts that manmade emissions of greenhouse gases have warmed the planet – but he believes their effects will not be as serious as some people argue. However, his appearance sparked protests from green groups, which said that such debates should not be broadcast.

Mr MacLeod wrote that the reason the Trust decided that there should be no attempt by the BBC to give equal weight to opposing sides on climate change was that sceptics' views were 'based on opinion rather than demonstrable scientific validity'.

Last night a Trust spokesman said: 'We agreed that there should be no attempt to give equal weight to opinion and to evidence in science coverage, but we said specifically that this does not mean that critical opinion should be excluded.

'We did not specify that the BBC should not broadcast debates/discussions between scientists and sceptics.'

A BBC spokesman added:
'All viewpoints continue to
be given due weight in our
output.' Asked whether the
BBC was prepared explicitly
to disavow Mr MacLeod's
email, both officials failed
to comment.

GWPF director Dr Benny Peiser said BBC coverage of climate change has been 'far too biased for far too long'.