

Sustainability Committee

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF99 1NA

25 January 2007

Dear Colleague,

The Assembly's Sustainability Committee is conducting an inquiry into Carbon Reduction in Wales.

The terms of reference for the inquiry are:

To scrutinise the Welsh Assembly Government on its progress in contributing to the UK's carbon reduction targets and its proposals for meeting the 3% per year carbon reduction target for Wales contained in the One Wales document.

The inquiry will focus on the following topic areas:

- Residential carbon reduction
- Carbon reduction by transport
- Carbon reduction by industry and public bodies
- Carbon reduction from electricity generation (including renewable energy)
- Rural land use management and carbon reduction
- The role of the planning system in carbon reduction

It is proposed that a written consultation is carried out at the start of the inquiry into each topic area.

The Committee would like to call for written evidence for its fourth topic inquiry on energy production outlining your organisations views on the questions on the attached questionnaire.

Please submit any written evidence by **14 March 2008**, to Virginia Hawkins at:

Sustainability.comm@wales.gsi.gov.uk

or

Sustainability Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Assembly Parliamentary Service
Assembly Offices
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Further consultations on each of the topic areas will be issued to coincide with the committee's evidence sessions.

Further information about the Committee's inquiry can be found on our website at:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-third-assem/bus-committees-third-sc-home.htm>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mick Bates". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'M' and 'B'.

Mick Bates
Chair, Sustainability Committee

CO2 Consultation Questions (Energy Generation)

This consultation is the fourth in a series of consultation documents to inform discussion by the National Assembly for Wales' Sustainability Committee in its inquiry on carbon reduction. The first consultation was on households. Later consultations will cover, agriculture, , and planning.

Not all consultation questions will necessarily apply to all consultees. Please answer any questions that you feel are most relevant.

General questions. Please only reply to these questions if your organisation has not already responded to previous consultations for the carbon reduction inquiry.

1. Is the proposed 3 per cent annual reduction target by 2011 'in areas of devolved competence'¹ sufficient to enable Wales to make its full contribution to meeting UK-wide targets? If not, what targets should be put in place?
2. Should the emission reduction target be based on Welsh consumption, or production, or both (ie should it take into consideration the carbon dioxide generated in Wales (production), or the carbon dioxide emissions that Wales' residents are responsible for, regardless of their source (consumption)?

Questions specific to transport emissions of carbon dioxide:

3. What particular challenges does Wales face in reducing carbon dioxide emissions from energy generation, and how can these challenges be overcome?
4. Do the current energy policies of the Welsh Assembly Government give sufficient emphasis to carbon reduction through low carbon energy generation?
5. To what extent has the Welsh Assembly Government been successful in utilising the powers available to it in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from energy generation?
6. Could alternative targeting of Welsh Assembly Government financial resources lead to greater emission reduction from energy generation

¹ Welsh Labour Party and Plaid Cymru, *One Wales: A progressive agenda for the government of Wales*,
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/27_06_07_owales.pdf

than is currently being achieved? If so, where could additional resources lead to greatest impact? (Please provide detail to support your evidence).

7. What examples from other administrations (devolved, UK, and overseas), where other means have been used to achieve reductions in carbon dioxide emissions from energy production, could be adopted in Wales under current powers?
8. In the context of the Government of Wales Act 2006, which further means of reducing carbon dioxide emissions from energy production could *only* be achieved with the introduction of further legislative competence for the National Assembly for Wales?
9. If specific carbon dioxide emissions targets are to be set for Wales, should those targets be subdivided into shares by sector? If so, what share of the total should reductions as a result of energy generation comprise?

Please note:

It is normal practice for the National Assembly to publish evidence provided to a committee. Consequently your response may appear in a report or in supplementary evidence to a report. The National Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data.

In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.

If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts should not be published, and to provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing information or responding to requests for information.