

Environmental Industries Media Briefing

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The voice of the UK's
environmental industry
www.eic-uk.co.uk

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- > Sustainable buildings and energy efficiency
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- > Land remediation
- > Air quality
- > Transport pollution control
- > Waste
- > Water pollution control
- > Renewable transport fuels
- > Sustainable development
- > Innovation
- > Environmental testing

About the Environmental Industries Commission (EIC)

EIC represents over 300 companies providing solutions to the main environmental problems (water and air pollution, contaminated land, waste, transport pollution, climate change etc). EIC has the support of leading politicians from all three major political parties, industrialists, trade union leaders, environmentalists, and academics.

EIC's core message is that high environmental standards are good for the economy. EIC believes that the future of global and UK competitiveness will be based on a transition to resource efficient, low carbon economy – EIC lobbies for the policies that will facilitate this transition.

“EIC and its Members have demonstrated responsibility, innovation and leadership in low carbon business – and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the work you do.”

Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, April 2008

Key EIC Lobbying Issues

EIC's “Growth Plan” for the Europe's Environmental Industry

EIC has long led the case that high environmental standards, far from a cost to business, will be key to future economic competitiveness of our economy. We, therefore, welcome the recent commitments to stimulating 'green jobs' from all the political parties.

To set out how these commitments can be put into action EIC recently launched its “Growth Plan for Europe's Environmental Industry,” which sets out a series of recommendations for tackling both the huge economic and environmental challenges Europe currently faces.

The rapidly growing environmental marketplace will produce huge economic benefits for those countries that gain early-mover advantage and dominate world markets - failure to act will allow international competitors to seize the opportunity instead. EIC's “Growth Plan for Europe's Environmental Industry” sets out the coordinated policies we need to ensure that Europe is at the forefront of this huge global business opportunity.

(Un)Sustainable Public Sector Building Projects

EIC has continued its high-level lobbying campaign calling for substantial improvements in the sustainability of the buildings central government procures.

The Government's ‘Common Minimum Standards’ require all new projects to achieve a BREEAM “excellent” rating and all refurbishment projects to achieve at least “very

MEET THE UK'S ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY

EIC's Parliamentary
Reception
with
Angela Eagle MP

**Members' Dining
Room
27 January 2009
4 – 6pm**

Network with senior
members of the UK's
environmental industry.

Our keynote speech is
from **Angela Eagle MP**,
Treasury Minister
responsible for
environmental issues.

For an invitation,
contact
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good” rating. The recent Sustainable Development Commission report ‘Sustainable Development in Government 2007’ showed, however, that only 8 per cent of all 2006-07 projects achieved the required standards.

Carbon Reduction Commitment

The Carbon Reduction Commitment is a mandatory auction based cap and trade scheme covering large businesses and public sector organisations whose half-hourly metered electricity use is above 6,000 MWh. The CRC will cover electricity use and all energy use emissions outside the EU ETS and Climate Change Agreements. Draft Regulations will be launched for consultation in 2009.

EIC has recently written to Ed Miliband MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, calling for the coverage threshold to be reduced from 6,000 Mwh of electricity use per annum to 1,000 Mwh (which the Government’s own research shows would be cost effective if the social cost of carbon is accounted for).

Future EIC Lobbying Issues

EIC’s next Media Briefing will include details on the following issues:

- EIC’s concerns with **air pollution at construction sites, in particular at the Olympics site.**
 - EIC’s proposals for a **" UK Environmental Industry Strategy"** – see above
 - **Budget 2009** – a number of EIC's Working Groups will be submitting their growth proposals to HM Treasury in early 2009 as officials prepare the Budget.
 - **Local Air Pollution, Prevention and Control (LAPPC)** – whether Defra’s proposals for simplified permitting under the LAPPC scheme is deregulation in all but name
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EIC Policy Briefings

EIC produces regular briefings for its Members on a range of detailed policy issues.

Recent briefings include:

- **Committee on Climate Change’s** recommendations on the levels of UK’s first three carbon budgets
- **EU Energy and Climate Change Package**, including agreement on Phase III of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme and the Renewable Energy Directive
- Department for Communities and Local Government **consultation on “zero carbon” homes and non-domestic buildings**
- Defra’s proposals for the future of the **Local Authority Pollution Prevention and Control** scheme
- European Commission proposals for revision of the **Energy Performance of Buildings Directive**

EIC also produces a **monthly UK and quarterly EU news report** on all of the key policy developments affecting the environmental industry.

For copies of these news reports or EIC’s policy briefings contact EIC (danny.stevens@eic-uk.co.uk)