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Local Leadership for a Low Carbon Sustainable Scotland



Broadsheet: 7 November 2011

Hard-up UK puts climate change on back burner

Report finds Britons more concerned with keeping warm than worrying about the environment

TOM BAWDEN | MONDAY 07 NOVEMBER 2011

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Hard-up UK puts climate change on back burner

Britain's carbon emissions grew faster than the economy last year for the first time since 1990, as a cash-strapped population relegated the environment down its league of concerns and spent more money keeping warm, according to a new report.


Suggested Topics

UK


Global Warming

Justice

Consultancy




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Statements... Oct 2011

Osbourne:
...environmental policies... "piling costs on the energy bills of households and companies"

"at the very least ... we're going to cut our carbon emissions no slower but also no faster than our fellow countries in Europe"



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Ben Pile: Climate Change Policy Is As Dangerous As Climate Change

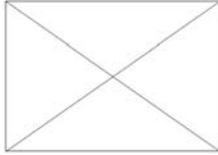
Friday, 21 October 2011 08:14 Ben Pile, Climate Resistance



Expect more government intervention and more policies. Expect more fuel poverty. Expect more deaths.

According to Channel 4 News,

An interim independent report predicts that 2,700 people will die this winter as a consequence of fuel poverty, a figure greater than the number killed in traffic accidents each year.



As argued here in recent posts, fuel poverty is a direct consequence of the UK's energy policies. The government and others have argued otherwise, and blamed 'the market' for rising prices. But this isn't good enough. The market does not exist in a vacuum; it exists in a world dominated by politicians who aren't making energy a priority, and who were aware of the effect of their policies on energy prices long ago. Rather than allowing R&D and investment in energy where it is needed, politicians have given incentives to more expensive forms of production, and allowed price to coerce people into reducing their energy consumption. This is not about how much of any fuel or electricity
