



06 OCT 2005

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THE PRIME MINISTER

3 October 2005

Dear Tom,

Thank you for your letter and attachment of 29 July detailing a number of policies that you propose should be included in the revised Climate Change Programme. I am grateful that you have taken the time to write to me, the Chancellor and other Secretaries of State with your useful thoughts on the action needed.

Climate Change remains one of my key priorities. The recent G8 Summit set the foundation for a new dialogue on climate change that goes beyond the G8 to include the key emerging economies of China and India plus other countries with significant energy needs. I hope that this Dialogue will create the right conditions for productive negotiations at the UN on action beyond 2012, the end of the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol.

The UK is also continuing work during its EU Presidency which as I have said all along, presents a significant opportunity for us to show leadership to the rest of the EU Members.

I am proud to say that by working together the Government and industry have achieved a great deal domestically and internationally. But we need to build on this success. Whilst we are on track to meet our commitment under the Kyoto

protocol, we need to focus more on how to meet our domestic goal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and to develop a post Kyoto strategy for beyond 2012.

Our objective is to ensure we have an effective policy framework that allows industry to plan and invest and one that fosters competition and innovation and gives UK businesses the opportunity to play a leading role in the development of new technologies. It would be a mistake not to seize these opportunities. Britain needs to move to a low-carbon economy, and it can only do that by developing sustainable, reliable and cost-effective energy solutions.

Although I am not in a position at this time to pre-empt how the revised programme will look, I can tell you that policies such as the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, the Energy Efficiency Commitment and other energy efficiency policies will be a central plank of the programme.

I look forward to your continuing support and again want to thank you for your constructive input.

*Your sincerely,
Tony Blair*

Dr John Roberts CBE