

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **UK wind power overtakes coal for first time:** Green groups hail analysis showing collapse in coal due to power station closures and rising carbon taxes (theguardian.com 06/01/2017)
- **World's first solar highway opens in France:** The road, called Wattway, was inaugurated by ecology minister Ségolène Royal, who said earlier this year that she wanted to build 1000 km of solar panel roads in France. (independent.co.uk 23/12/2016)
- **China cementing global dominance of renewable energy and technology:** It now owns five of the world's six largest solar-module manufacturing firms and the largest wind-turbine manufacturer. (theguardian.com 06/01/2017)
- **Tidal lagoon: £1.3bn Swansea Bay project to be backed:** Charles Hendry will publish his independent report into the viability of the renewable energy technology later, recommending the UK builds the lagoon to capture energy from the sea. (bbc.co.uk 12/01/2017)
- **The World's Hottest Borehole Is Being Drilled Into a Volcano:** The Iceland Deep Drilling Project is tapping steam so hot and so pressurized, its power potential is ten times that of conventional geothermal wells. (seeker.com 18/12/2016)
- **Government 'thinking through' how to drive subsidy-free renewables deployment:** Climate change minister Nick Hurd has said that the government is "thinking through" ways to drive established renewable technologies such as solar towards subsidy-free deployment. (solarpowerportal.co.uk 10/01/2017)
- **Largest lake in southern Europe under threat from "eco-resort":** One of the most biodiverse lakes in Europe, home to many species found nowhere else, is under threat from the development of a resort and hydropower dams. (newscientist.com 03/01/2017)

And finally...

- **Breakthrough technology turns coal plant CO2 into baking powder:** Many scientists and engineers have been focused on ways to clean up excess carbon dioxide, which contributes to climate change. India-based company Carbon Clean Solutions is making headway in that area, with its unique method for turning CO2 into harmless baking powder. (newscientist.com 03/01/2017)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

We've just welcomed two members of the Aardvark team back from Siem Reap in Cambodia, where they spent 2 months volunteering at a not for profit organisation called **ConCERT** supporting a **Treak School and Community**.

For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

